

1975 Bill 217

1975 Session, 17th Legislature, 24 Elizabeth II

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

BILL 217

THE SENIOR CITIZENS AFFAIRS ACT, 1975

MR. WILSON

First Reading

Second Reading

Third Reading

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THE SENIOR CITIZENS AFFAIRS ACT, 1975

(Assented to _____, 1975)

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, enacts as follows:

1. In this Act,

- (a) "Minister" means the minister charged with the administration of this Act;
- (b) "senior citizen" means a citizen resident in Alberta who has attained the age of 65.

2. (1) There shall be a department of the public service of the Province called the Department of Senior Citizens Affairs over which shall preside the Minister.

(2) The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may only charge the administration of this Act to a Minister without Portfolio.

3. In accordance with The Public Service Act, there may be appointed a Deputy Minister of Senior Citizens Affairs and such other public servants as are required to conduct the business of the department.

4. The Minister

- (a) shall be responsible for development of policies in matters pertaining to senior citizens;
- (b) shall be responsible for co-ordinating existing government programs and procedures pertaining to senior citizens in order to achieve their maximum effectiveness;
- (c) shall, as a representative of the Government of Alberta, maintain a continuing liaison with the Government of Canada and agencies thereof, the governments of other provinces and territories and agencies thereof, and municipal corporations of Alberta, in relation to matters under the administration of the Minister;

Explanatory Notes

- (d) shall carry out such research projects related to matters pertaining to senior citizens as may seem appropriate from time to time;
- (e) shall appoint an officer of the department who shall be known as the Senior Citizens Advocate and who shall be responsible for assisting and advising individual senior citizens in their contacts with government departments;
- (f) shall be chairman of a Cabinet Committee on Senior Citizens Affairs;
- (g) shall seek every opportunity to meet with senior citizens and representatives of senior citizens' societies and organizations for the purpose of better acquainting himself with all matters pertaining to the needs and concerns of senior citizens.

5. (1) The Minister may from time to time, engage the services of persons having special technical or other knowledge to advise him or to inquire into and report to him on matters under the Minister's administration.

(2) A person whose services are engaged under this section may be paid such remuneration and expenses as the Minister may prescribe.

6. (1) There shall be a Cabinet Committee on Senior Citizens Affairs.

(2) The Committee shall consist of the members of Executive Council responsible for

- (a) Alberta Health Care Insurance Commission,
- (b) Consumer Affairs,
- (c) Culture, Youth and Recreation,
- (d) Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs,
- (e) Health and Social Development,
- (f) Manpower and Labor, and
- (g) Municipal Affairs.

(3) The Committee

- (a) shall be responsible for advising the Minister on the development of new programs pertaining to senior citizens affairs;
- (b) shall advise the Minister on the coordination of the development of existing programs pertaining to senior citizens affairs; and
- (c) shall receive representations from representatives of Alberta senior citizen's societies and organizations.

7. (1) There shall be created a council called "The Alberta Advisory Council on Senior Citizens Affairs".

(2) The Council shall consist of a minimum of ten and a maximum of twenty senior citizens, appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, one of whom shall be appointed as chairperson.

(3) The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may make regulations prescribing the terms of office and conditions of service of members of the Council.

(4) (a) The Council shall meet

(i) at least ten times each year in such places and on such days as may be fixed by the chairperson, and

(ii) at such other times and places as the Council considers necessary.

(b) The Council may make by-laws respecting

(i) the calling of meetings of the Council,

(ii) the conduct of business thereat, including the fixing of a quorum,

(iii) the duties and conduct of the members of the Council, and

(iv) generally as to the conduct of the business and affairs of the Council.

(5) The objects of the Council shall be to develop, co-ordinate and encourage throughout the Province

(a) recognition of contributions made to the life of Alberta by its senior citizens,

(b) special programs and projects by and for senior citizens,

(c) general interest in and knowledge of senior citizens, and

(d) such other services and functions as may be designated by the Minister.

(6) In addition to the powers invested in the Council by this Act, the Council has power to

(a) designate a day which a municipality may by by-law proclaim as "Senior Citizens Day",

(b) organize volunteer employment agencies for the specific purpose of assisting senior citizens in obtaining part time employment,

(c) organize senior citizens housing co-operatives for the purpose of providing housing units for senior citizens under The Alberta Housing Act,

(d) organize programs to assist senior citizens in taking examinations and tests for drivers' licenses,

(e) consult with and advise officials of the Alberta Health Care Insurance Commission on all matters pertaining to the costs of health care in Alberta insofar as they affect senior citizens,

- (f) organize from time to time, special transportation arrangements, journeys, tours and holiday camps in Alberta specifically for senior citizens, and
 - (g) organize any other programs specifically for senior citizens as may be designated by the Minister.
- (7) The Council may accept grants, gifts and bequests from any source and any moneys so acquired shall be placed in a separate account for projects of the Council.
- (8) The Council shall not employ any officers, employees or agents but may request the Minister from time to time to provide the services of employees and agents of the public service for limited periods of time.
- (9) At the beginning of each year the Council shall make a report of its work during the preceding year to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.
- (10) A copy of the annual report of the Council shall be laid before the Legislative Assembly within 15 days after the commencement of the next ensuing session.
- (11) The Provincial Auditor, or his nominee, shall from time to time, and at least once a year, audit the receipts and expenditures of the Council.

8. This Act comes into force on the day upon which it is assented to.

