**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**EXECUTIVE ORDER #81Relating to the Commission on Minority Participation in
Post-secondary Vocational and Technical Education

WHEREAS, providing citizens with opportunities to prepare for employment is the primary mission of the Vocational, Technical and Adult Education (VTAE) system; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's VTAE schools are the main source of post-secondary education and training opportunities for minorities in the state; and

WHEREAS, minority students are about one-half as likely to graduate from a post-secondary and college parallel programs in the VTAE system as are nonminority students; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's minority citizens will make up an increasing proportion of the new entrants to the state's labor market in the coming decade;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TOMMY G. THOMPSON, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State, and specifically by Wisconsin Statute section 14.019, do hereby:

1. Establish the Commission on Minority Participation in post-secondary Vocational and Technical Education and direct the Commission to:
 - a. Make recommendations regarding recruitment, retention and graduation of minority students in the VTAE system, in connection with which the Commission shall:
 - (1) review and examine current participation of minority students in the VTAE system including enrollment trends, participation in occupational training programs, enrollment in college parallel programs and graduation rates;
 - (2) review existing programs and policies and identify barriers which may limit access of minorities to VTAE programs;
 - (3) identify problems facing minorities which contribute to lower retention and graduation;
 - (4) identify problems relating to racially derogatory behavior/remarks made by students and staff which create a hostile learning environment for minority students.

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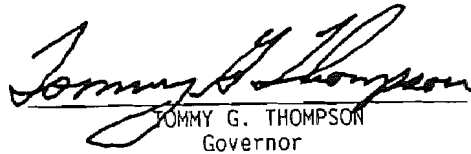
Legislative Reference
Bureau

- b. Develop a strategic plan for expanding the participation of minority students and staff in the VTAE systems, in connection with which the Commission shall:
 - (1) conduct hearings to obtain input on issues affecting minority students in the VTAE system;
 - (2) recommend a marketing plan to better attract minority staff in VTAE districts, especially in teaching positions;
 - (3) recommend practices which will lead to increased access to the VTAE system for minority students in high schools as well as the adults; and
 - (4) recommend ways to improve community involvement for minority issues within the VTAE system.
 - c. Recommend a plan to significantly increase the pool of trained job-ready minority students and place graduates in well paying, skilled positions within the Wisconsin work force, in connection with which the Commission shall:
 - (1) analyze employment trends and identify skill levels needed for occupations in demand, focusing on employment opportunities for skilled minority workers;
 - (2) develop a plan to significantly increase enrollment of minorities in technical programs and other programs showing good growth and potential in the 1990's.
 - d. Establish a plan to improve the collaboration and coordination among the principal agencies and bodies necessary for a successful minority initiative in post-secondary vocational and technical education, in connection with which the Commission shall:
 - (1) identify ways to increase representation and participation of minorities on District and State Board governance levels;
 - (2) identify specific mechanisms for improved collaboration on the part of public schools, organized labor, University of Wisconsin system, community agencies, business and industry, district staff, faculty and students in the implementation of the commissions recommendations;
 - (3) review related state and federal programs which target educational services to minorities and identify specific approaches to better coordinate programs and federal funds to achieve higher rates of minority placements in post-secondary education and into well paying jobs.
 - e. Develop a plan to monitor and evaluate the implementation and effectiveness of the commission's recommendations.
2. Direct the Commission to define the term minority to mean Blacks, Hispanics, Southeast Asians and American Indians.
 3. Direct the Commission to present their recommendations in a final report to the President of the Wisconsin Board of Vocational Technical and Adult Education and the Governor by December 1, 1990.
 4. Provide that membership of the Commission will not exceed 31 members and shall be composed of at least 50% minority members. Representation on the Commission shall include members from VTAE districts, business and industry, community based organizations, labor, the legislature and related state and local agencies.

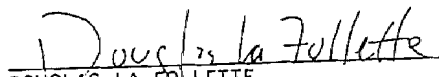
5. Provide that Commission members including the Chairman, shall be appointed by the Governor, to serve at his pleasure.
6. Direct the Wisconsin Board of Vocational, Technical and Adult Education to provide staff support and costs necessary for the Commission.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this twenty-second day of January in the year one thousand nine hundred and ninety.


TOMMY G. THOMPSON
Governor

By the Governor:


DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State