

205.201 Duties of cabinet as to the aging and the minority elderly.

The duties of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall be to:

- (1) Promote and aid in the establishment of local programs and services for the aging;
- (2) Conduct programs to educate the public as to problems of the aging;
- (3) Review existing state programs and services for the aging and to make recommendations to the Governor, to the appropriate department and agencies of the state, and to the legislature for improvements in and additions to such programs and services;
- (4) Assist and encourage governmental and private agencies to coordinate their efforts on behalf of the aging;
- (5) Conduct and encourage other organizations to conduct studies concerning the aging;
- (6) Establish, in selected areas and communities of the state, programs of services for the aging to demonstrate the value of such programs, and to encourage local agencies to continue the programs and to create new services where needed. Emphasis shall be given to services designed to foster continued participation of older people in family and community life and to lessen the need for institutional care;
- (7) Provide services designed to meet the needs of the minority elderly in programs administered by the cabinet. The cabinet shall annually prepare a report identifying the special needs of the minority elderly population in the Commonwealth as compared to the elderly population at large. The report shall be completed no later than October 1 of each year and transmitted to the Legislative Research Commission. The report shall, at a minimum:
 - (a) Contain an overview of the health status of minority elderly Kentuckians;
 - (b) Identify specific diseases and health conditions for which the minority elderly are at greater risk than the general population;
 - (c) Identify problems experienced by the minority elderly in obtaining services from governmental agencies; and
 - (d) Identify programs at the state and local level designed to specifically meet the needs of the minority elderly;
- (8) In preparing the report required by subsection (7) of this section, the cabinet shall solicit and consider the input of individuals and organizations representing the concerns of the minority elderly population as relates to:
 - (a) Programs and services needed by the minority elderly;
 - (b) The extent to which existing programs do not meet the needs of the minority elderly;
 - (c) The accessibility of existing programs to the minority elderly;
 - (d) The availability and adequacy of information regarding existing services;
 - (e) Health problems the minority elderly experience at a higher rate than the nonminority elderly population; and
 - (f) Financial, social, and other barriers experienced by the minority elderly in obtaining services;

- (9) Conduct an outreach program that provides information to minority elderly Kentuckians about health and social problems experienced by minority elderly persons and available programs to address those problems, as identified in the report prepared pursuant to subsection (7) of this section; and
- (10) Cooperate with the federal government and with the governments of other states in programs relating to the aging.

Effective: June 20, 2005

History: Amended 2005 Ky. Acts ch. 99, sec. 219, effective June 20, 2005. -- Amended 2000 Ky. Acts ch. 6, sec. 19, effective July 14, 2000. -- Amended 1998 Ky. Acts ch. 426, sec. 186, effective July 15, 1998. -- Amended 1992 Ky. Acts ch. 246, sec. 1, effective July 14, 1992. -- Created 1976 Ky. Acts ch. 207, sec. 1.