

Commission Activities
FY 2018 Report to the Legislature

(Pursuant to Section 804 of PA 207 of 2018)

January 31, 2019

Prepared by

Michigan Office for New Americans

Reporting Period: October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018

Executive Summary:

Public Act 207 of 2018 section 804 requires the following:

Sec. 804. *The Michigan office for new Americans is to coordinate with the Asian Pacific American affairs commission, the Commission on Middle Eastern American affairs, and the Hispanic/Latino commission of Michigan to produce a report by January 31 that is to be transmitted to the senate and house subcommittee chairpersons, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director. The report shall include, but is not limited to, the following:*

- (a) Total number of people with whom each commission directly interacts through programming.*
- (b) Total number of public events that each commission conducted.*
- (c) Description of the activities that the commissions initiated to promote cooperation between the commissions.*
- (d) Total number of meetings that each commission held with foreign diplomats.*
- (e) Programmatic costs of each commission.*

Background:

In FY16, the Hispanic/Latino Commission of Michigan (HLCOM), Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission (MAPAAC) and Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs (CMEAA) were transferred to the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA). The purpose of each Commission is to serve the respective populations.

Legislation was passed to provide additional information on the Commission activities in the populations each serve. This report outlines the FY18 activities for each commission.

Required Information:

- (a) Total number of people with whom each commission directly interacts through programing.*
 - a. HLCOM – 2,600
 - b. MAPAAC – 1,013
 - c. CMEAA – Approximately 5,600

(b) Total number of public events that each commission conducted.

- a. HLCOM – 10
- b. MAPAAC – 4
- c. CMEAA – 24

(c) Description of the activities that the commission initiated to promote cooperation between the commissions.

- a. All three commissions participated in the following events:
 - i. **Joint Legislative Advocacy Committee.** The committee formed by MONA consists of members of the three ethnic commissions (MAPAAC, HLCOM, and CMEAA) with legislative analysis from LARA. The objectives are to track legislation that may impact the representative immigrant communities, analyze its impact on each community, assess the likelihood of passage, strategize a collective response, inform and make recommendations to respective commissions, and coordinate action with MONA and LARA.
 - ii. **The Joint Ethnic Commission Meeting.** Once per year, the ethnic commissions hold a joint meeting to bring the three commissions together. This allows them to connect and brainstorm on issues that collectively impact the ethnic communities served by all three commissions so that they may join together to address those issues. The meeting was held on September 6, 2018. Mike Zimmer, Governor Snyder's Cabinet Director, was the guest speaker. He provided the keynote and held a question and answer session.
 - iii. **The New Americans Appreciation Gala.** The gala is a joint event between the Michigan Office for New Americans (MONA) and the three ethnic commissions which aims to recognize economic and philanthropic contributions by New Americans to the state. The commissions choose two awardees from their communities, along with two honorable mentions for community leaders that made a significant impact on efforts to make Michigan into a welcoming state for New Americans. The FY18 gala was held on September 6, 2018 and there were 498 individuals in attendance. Governor Snyder was the keynote speaker.

(d) Total number of meetings each commission held with foreign diplomats.

- a. HLCOM – 5
- b. MAPAAC – 0 (MAPAAC commissioners are leaders in their ethnic communities and interact with the Consulate Generals of Japan and China. Most activities though were hosted by the Consulate Generals or APA organizations.)
- c. CMEAA – 0

(e) Programmatic costs of each commission.

- a. HLCOM - \$286,000
- b. MAPAAC - \$125,284
- c. CMEAA - \$120,122