Act No. 128 (H.96). Discrimination; Truth and Reconciliation Commission

An act relating to creating the Truth and Reconciliation Commission

This act establishes the Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission as an independent State body to examine institutional, structural, and systemic discrimination caused or permitted by State laws and policies that has been experienced by individuals who identify as Native American or Indigenous; individuals with a physical, psychiatric, or mental condition or disability and the families of individuals with a physical, psychiatric, or mental condition or disability; Black individuals and other individuals of color; and individuals with French Canadian, French-Indian, or other mixed ethnic or racial heritage. The Commission will consist of three full-time commissioners, staff, and committee members appointed by the commissioners to assist in examining discrimination caused or permitted by State laws and policies. The Commission will produce, on or before June 15, 2026, a final report regarding its findings and recommendations for actions that can be taken to eliminate ongoing instances of institutional, structural, and systemic discrimination and to address the harm caused by historic instances of institutional, structural, and systemic discrimination.

Effective Date: May 24, 2022