

South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs
Responses to State Agency Restructuring Study Committee Questions

1. What has Minority Affairs done to cut costs for the current year?

- A. Filled Executive Director's position internally which resulted in a cost saving.
- B. Issued a freeze on all none essential expenditures (*travel, purchases, etc.*).
- C. Will implement mandatory 10 day furloughs for staff beginning December 2010.

2. What does Minority Affairs plan to do in regards to further cuts for the next year's budget acknowledging there will be further cuts?

A. It is anticipated that the Carolina Bridge Project, a curriculum based after school educational enrichment program sponsored by the Commission, will reduce the impact of next year's budget cuts. Funds generated by the operation of the Carolina Bridge Project will be received by the 4th quarter of the current fiscal year and will be utilized to reduce the effects of next fiscal year's budget cuts (*see enclosed Carolina Bridge Project information*).

B. Should further action be required to address next year's budget cuts, the agency will seek to reduce its expenditures by relocating its office to a state owned facility. Currently, the Commission is housed in a non-state owned property located at 6904 N. Main Street, Suite 107.

C. If additional funds generated by the Carolina Bridge Project, Inc. and the relocation of office space do not generate sufficient costs savings to eliminate agency deficits caused by budget cuts, we will be forced to issue a Reduction in Force.

3. What is Minority Affairs' view on the consolidation of Human Affairs, Minority Affairs, and Consumer Affairs into one agency?

It is Minority Affairs' view that the consolidation of the Human Affairs Commission, the Commission for Minority Affairs, and the Consumer Affairs Commission into one agency would not be most advantageous for the State's minority populations (*see enclosed Agency Chart*). We believe that the Commission for Minority Affairs' best fit would be with the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (*see enclosed information regarding the Office of Economic Opportunity*). The mission and goals of the Commission for Minority Affairs and the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity are more closely aligned than those of Human Affairs or Consumer Affairs. Additionally, Mr. Rogie Nelson, the Commission's Program Coordinator for Small and Minority Business Affairs, works closely with the Governor's Office of Small and Minority Business Assistance and serves on its Certification Review Panel (*see enclosed information regarding the Governor's Office of Small and Minority Business Assistance*). Given these facts, if consolidation becomes necessary, we believe the Governor's Office would be the best choice.

CMA Current Funding Adjustments

