

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS
Eastern Regional Office

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**New Hampshire State Advisory Committee to Convene
Briefing on Changing Demographics in the Granite State**

What: New Hampshire State Advisory Committee briefing

When: Wednesday, January 11, 2012, 5:30 p.m. ET

Where: Manchester City Hall
908 Elm Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

CONCORD, NH, -- The New Hampshire State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will convene a public briefing to gather information from government officials and community advocates on the response of communities to changing demographics.

Background: Although the U.S. population is still largely white and non-Hispanic, minority populations are growing 12 times faster than the white population, so that as a country we are growing both older and more diverse. According to the U.S. Census, the current generation entering the workforce is one of the largest and most diverse—with two-fifths black, Hispanic or another racial minority. If projections hold, by 2050 the U.S. will be a "majority-minority society" — a country that no longer has a majority of any one racial or ethnic group. These demographic trends have important future implications for the provision of education, health care, and other public services. Communities need to recognize and plan for the challenges related to these changing demographics. In September 2010, the Committee held a briefing to learn more. The committee learned that there were no plans to address challenges in various areas – employment, education, etc. The committee decided that it needed to help develop a dialogue to encourage New Hampshire to understand the new realities of our changing community. To that end, the committee will continue to hold a series of town-hall-style briefings with state and town officials and members of the public.

The New Hampshire State Advisory Committee has invited experts to discuss this issue. Presenters include Tom Brennan, Superintendent of Schools; Bruce Mallory of the University of New Hampshire; Bobbie Bagley; Principal Colette Valade of Nashua High School Principal; Scott Jaquith, a social worker in the public school system; and representative students in New Hampshire.

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Congress has directed the United States Commission on Civil Rights to establish state advisory committees (SACs) in all 50 states and the District of Columbia to study issues and forward advisory reports to the Commission on matters within the agency's jurisdiction that reflect the views of the majority of SAC members producing the report.

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