

# THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Appoints South Dakota State Advisory Committee Members**

**WASHINGTON, DC** - The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has appointed 14 South Dakota citizens to its South Dakota State Advisory Committee (SAC).

Martin Castro, Chairman of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, announced the appointment of Charles T. Abourezk of Rapid City, Melanie K. Bliss of Sioux Falls, Richard M. Braunstein of Vermillion, Marcia N. Bunger of Spencer, Joni M. Cutler of Sioux Falls, Scott D. German of Peever, Chris Hupke of Sioux Falls, Arlouine G. Kingman of Rapid City, Mike J. Levsen of Aberdeen, Cassandra L. McKeown of Vermillion, Anthony D. Molina of Vermillion, Renee B. Olson of Waubay, Ira W. Taken Alive of Rapid City and Sheila S. Woodward of Yankton. Commissioners appointed Richard M. Braunstein as chairman. Members are appointed for 2-year terms and serve without compensation.

Congress has directed the Commission to establish advisory committees in all states and the District of Columbia to assist in its fact-finding function. These committees receive reports, suggestions, and recommendations from individuals, public and private organizations, and public officials, and forward advice and recommendations to the Commission. Members of State Advisory Committees conduct civil rights reviews and studies and report its findings to the Commission.

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*The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency charged with monitoring federal civil rights enforcement. Its members, appointed by the President and Congress, include Chairman Martin Castro and Commissioners Roberta Achtenberg, Todd Gaziano, Gail Heriot, Peter Kirsanow, David Kladney, Abigail Thernstrom, and Michael Yaki. The Commission's website is <http://www.usccr.gov>.*