

(RIGHTS, from page 1)

powered to 'make findings of fact and proceed thereon' as provided in section 20 of the 1965 act.

"Section 20. charges the commission with the responsibility of making 'appropriate findings of fact' and service of 'a copy of such findings upon any person found to have engaged in any such practice within 20 days after any such finding of unfair practice is made; and if such person does not cease and desist from the unfair practice so found within 20 days after service is made, apply to the appropriate district court for an injunction against such continued unfair practice.'" Bailey said.

THIS PROCEDURE could follow commission investigation of a complaint submitted by a citizen or an investigation initiated by the commission, and a public hearing, Bailey said. He explained that the term "person" as used in Section 20 is defined in the 1965 law as including any "corporation, association, company, firm, labor organization, partnership, legal

representative, mutual company, joint-stock company, trust, unincorporated organization, trustee, trustee in bankruptcy, receiver, the State of Nevada or any of its political subdivisions, as well as a natural person."

Bailey said the joint meeting with the State Gaming Commission would be sought under a provision of Section 20 which provides that the equal rights commission "shall . . . Cooperate with and seek the cooperation of federal and state agencies and departments in carrying out projects within their respective authorities to eliminate intergroup tensions and to promote intergroup harmony."

He said that although the equal rights commission is empowered to investigate complaints or initiate its own investigation of allegedly unfair employment practices in the gaming industry, he felt it wise to seek the gaming commission's cooperation in "cleaning up the situation" rather than have the equal rights board take unilateral action against offenders.

"It has been established that gambling licenses issued by the state gaming commission are privileges, not absolute rights," Bailey said. "We therefore believe that the gaming commission could persuade violators of the 1965 civil rights law to voluntarily conform to provisions of the act without unnecessary friction or possible unfavorable publicity to the state resulting from legal action."

Bailey, a realtor, retail liquor dealer and TV personality, has been a member of the state equal rights commission ever since it was established by the legislature in 1961. He was

named chairman by Gov. Grant Sawyer some 18 months ago following the resignation of Bert Goldwater, Reno attorney.

In reshuffling the five-member board last week, Gov. Sawyer retained Bailey and James Hulse of Reno, a University of Nevada professor, and accepted the resignations of Al Landsman, Las Vegas; Tom West, Sparks, and David Moose, Jr., Carson City. New appointees were John Mendoza and George Rudiak, Las Vegas attorneys, and Mrs. Helen Whitacre of Yerington, wife of State Senator Walter Whitacre, a Republican.

Members of the commission serve at the pleasure of the governor without salary, but a paid executive director will be selected shortly, "probably within 30 days" according to Bailey, who will be solely responsible to the commission. The job will pay a minimum of \$8,500 annually, with a ceiling of \$9,880.

A COMMISSION OFFICE will be opened in the State Building here, 215 East Bonanza Rd., where the executive director will advise citizens on various facets of state and federal civil rights legislation, explain functions of the commission, receive complaints, initiate investigations and keep files on their progress and other business of the commission.

Bailey said he was "deeply gratified" by Gov. Sawyer's recent "declaration of war" against racial prejudice in Nevada and the governor's pledge to commit the full resources of his administration to "active enforcement" of the new state anti-discrimination statutes through the equal rights commission.

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