

By Senator McKay

26-1095-00

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to victims; creating the Task  
3           Force on Victims of Self-Inflicted Crimes  
4           within the Executive Office of the Governor;  
5           providing for membership of the task force;  
6           requiring the task force to review the problems  
7           of victims of self-inflicted crimes and propose  
8           solutions to remediate this behavior; requiring  
9           the task force to hold a specified number of  
10          public meetings; providing requirements for a  
11          written report by the task force; providing for  
12          members of the task force to be reimbursed for  
13          travel and per diem expenses; authorizing the  
14          task force to employ an executive director;  
15          abolishing the task force after a specified  
16          date; providing an appropriation; providing an  
17          effective date.

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19 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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21           Section 1.   Task Force on Victims of Self-Inflicted  
22 Crimes.--

23           (1)(a) The Task Force on Victims of Self-Inflicted  
24 Crimes is created within the Executive Office of the Governor.  
25 The commission shall be composed of 15 members. The Secretary  
26 of Juvenile Justice, the Secretary of Corrections, and the  
27 executive director of the Department of Law Enforcement shall  
28 personally serve as members of the task force. Additional  
29 members of the task force shall include the Governor's  
30 Victims' Rights Advocate; the Director of the Crime Victims'  
31 Services Office within the Department of Legal Affairs; a

1 state attorney, appointed by the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys  
2 Association; a public defender, appointed by the Public  
3 Defenders Association; a sheriff, appointed by the Florida  
4 Sheriffs Association; a police chief, appointed by the Florida  
5 Police Chiefs Association; the State Courts Administrator; a  
6 representative of the Florida Network of Victim/Witness  
7 Services, Inc., appointed by the board of the network; a  
8 commissioner of the Florida Parole Commission, appointed by  
9 the commission; and three victims of self-inflicted crimes,  
10 appointed by the Governor in consultation with the President  
11 of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

12 (b) The appointments must be made within 14 days after  
13 the effective date of the act, and the task force shall hold  
14 its first meeting within 30 days after the effective date of  
15 the act. Any vacancy that occurs on the task force shall be  
16 filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

17 (2) Members of the task force are entitled to one vote  
18 each, and an action of the task force is not binding unless a  
19 majority of the total number of votes that are cast are votes  
20 in favor of the action. The task force may not take action  
21 unless a majority of the members are present at a meeting.

22 (3) The task force shall review the problems  
23 associated with victims of self-inflicted crimes and propose  
24 solutions for reducing repetitious behavior by which  
25 individuals commit such acts through the provision of programs  
26 designed specifically to remediate this behavior. At a  
27 minimum, the task force shall investigate the following  
28 issues:

29 (a) Causes leading to self-inflicted crimes.

30 (b) Current availability of treatment within the state  
31 and outside the state.

1           (c) Current methods of treatment within the state and  
2 outside the state.

3           (d) Numbers of victims by types of behavior.

4           (e) Current policies of the state and local  
5 governments with respect to victims of self-inflicted crimes.

6           (f) Recommendations to improve services for this  
7 population at the state and local level.

8           (4) The task force shall hold at least four public  
9 hearings throughout the state to solicit input from the public  
10 and appropriate experts on the problems of victims of  
11 self-inflicted crimes.

12           (5) The task force shall, by January 1, 2001, provide  
13 to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker  
14 of the House of Representatives a written report that contains  
15 specific recommendations for addressing the problems of  
16 victims of self-inflicted crimes.

17           (6) Task force members shall not receive remuneration  
18 for their services, but members other than public officers and  
19 employees are entitled to reimbursement for travel and per  
20 diem expenses in accordance with section 112.061, Florida  
21 Statutes.

22           (7) The task force may employ an executive director,  
23 who shall receive supplemental financial and other assistance  
24 from other agencies under the Governor's direct supervision.  
25 The Executive Office of the Governor shall provide additional  
26 assistance as appropriate.

27           (8) The task force shall continue in existence until  
28 its objectives are achieved, but not later than January 15,  
29 2001.

30           Section 2. The sum of \$250,000 is appropriated from  
31 the General Revenue Fund to the Executive Office of the

1 Governor for the purpose of paying the administrative expenses  
2 necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

3 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
4 law.

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7 SENATE SUMMARY

8 Creates the Task Force on Victims of Self-Inflicted  
9 Crimes within the Executive Office of the Governor.  
10 Requires the task force to review the problems of such  
11 victims and propose solutions to remediate such behavior.  
12 Requires the task force to hold four public meetings  
13 throughout the state. Requires that the task force make a  
14 written report to the Governor and the Legislature by  
15 January 1, 2001.  
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