

By Representative Jones

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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