

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to workplace safety; creating the Florida  
3 Public Task Force on Workplace Safety within the Safety  
4 Florida Consultation Program at the University of South  
5 Florida; providing the purpose of the task force;  
6 providing for membership; requiring that the task force  
7 address certain issues concerning workplace safety in the  
8 public and private sectors; providing for staffing;  
9 providing for members to serve without compensation but to  
10 be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses;  
11 authorizing the task force to procure information or  
12 assistance from any officer or agency of the state;  
13 requiring that such officers or agencies provide  
14 information and assistance to the task force; requiring  
15 that the task force submit a report and recommendations to  
16 the Governor, the Chief Financial Officer, and the  
17 Legislature by a specified date; requiring that the report  
18 include certain information; providing for dissolution of  
19 the task force; providing an appropriation; providing an  
20 effective date.

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

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24 Section 1. (1) The Florida Public Task Force on Workplace  
25 Safety is established within the Safety Florida Consultation  
26 Program at the University of South Florida for the purpose of  
27 developing findings and issuing recommendations regarding  
28 innovative ways by which the state may effectively ensure that

29 each state department and agency and each county government and  
30 municipality located in the state complies with subparts C  
31 through T and subpart Z of the Occupational Safety and Health  
32 Administration Standards, 29 C.F.R. s. 1910, as revised July 1,  
33 1993, with the exception of standards pertaining to firefighters  
34 and fire departments.

35 (2) (a) All members of the task force shall be appointed on  
36 or before July 15, 2008, and the task force shall hold its first  
37 meeting on or before August 15, 2008.

38 (b) The task force shall be composed of 15 members as  
39 follows:

40 1. Five members appointed by the Governor, one of whom  
41 must be a representative of a statewide business organization;  
42 one of whom must be a representative of organized labor; one of  
43 whom must be a professional whose work focuses on safety,  
44 health, and environmental issues; one of whom must be a  
45 representative of the executive branch of state government; and  
46 one of whom must be an academic having demonstrated knowledge of  
47 pertinent issues related to occupational safety and health. The  
48 Governor shall name one of the appointees under this  
49 subparagraph as chair of the task force.

50 2. Five members appointed by the President of the Senate,  
51 one of whom must be a representative of a statewide business  
52 organization; one of whom must be a representative of organized  
53 labor; one of whom must be a professional whose work focuses on  
54 safety, health, and environmental issues; one of whom must be  
55 from the Florida Association of Counties; and one of whom must  
56 be active in private-sector business.

57 3. Five members appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
58 Representatives, one of whom must be a representative of a  
59 statewide business organization; one of whom must be a  
60 representative of organized labor; one of whom must be a  
61 professional whose work focuses on safety, health, and  
62 environmental issues; one of whom must be from the Florida  
63 League of Cities; and one of whom must be active in private-  
64 sector business.

65 (3) The task force shall address issues including, but not  
66 limited to:

67 (a) Differences in the workplace safety needs of private-  
68 sector employers and public-sector employers;

69 (b) The relationship between federal and state activities  
70 related to workplace safety; and

71 (c) The effect of public-sector workplace safety and  
72 health on the economic-development efforts of the state.

73 (4) The task force shall exist within the University of  
74 South Florida Safety Florida Consultation Program, and existing  
75 employees of that office shall provide staff support.

76 (5) Members of the task force shall serve without  
77 compensation while in the performance of their duties but are  
78 entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses in  
79 accordance with s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.

80 (6) The task force may procure information and assistance  
81 from any officer or agency of the state or any subdivision  
82 thereof. All such officers and agencies shall provide the task  
83 force with all relevant information and assistance on any matter  
84 within their knowledge or control.

85        (7) The task force shall submit a report and  
86 recommendations to the Governor, the Chief Financial Officer,  
87 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
88 Representatives by January 1, 2009. The report must include any  
89 specific recommendations for legislative action during the 2009  
90 Regular Session of the Legislature.

91        (8) The task force is dissolved upon the submission of its  
92 report.

93        Section 2. The sum of \$100,000 in nonrecurring funds is  
94 appropriated from the Worker's Compensation Administration Trust  
95 Fund in the Department of Financial Services for transfer to the  
96 University of South Florida for the 2008-2009 fiscal year for  
97 the purpose of implementing the Florida Public Task Force on  
98 Workplace Safety.

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