

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the Florida Criminal Justice Reform  
 3           Task Force; creating the task force within the  
 4           legislative branch; specifying membership of the task  
 5           force; establishing the manner of appointments and the  
 6           terms of membership; prescribing duties of the task  
 7           force; specifying requirements for meetings of the  
 8           task force; requiring the task force to submit a  
 9           report to the Legislature by a specified date;  
 10          providing for staffing; specifying public records and  
 11          public meetings requirements applicable to the task  
 12          force; authorizing reimbursement for per diem and  
 13          travel expenses; providing for expiration; providing  
 14          an effective date.

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

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 18           Section 1. Florida Criminal Justice Reform Task Force.—The  
 19 Florida Criminal Justice Reform Task Force is created within the  
 20 legislative branch of state government for the purpose of  
 21 conducting a comprehensive review of the state's criminal  
 22 justice system, court system, and corrections system.

23           (1) MEMBERSHIP.—The task force is composed of 28 members,  
 24 as follows:

25           (a) Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President

26 | of the Senate, not including any member designated pursuant to  
 27 | paragraph (k).

28 | (b) Two members of the House of Representatives, appointed  
 29 | by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, not including  
 30 | any member designated pursuant to paragraph (k).

31 | (c) Two circuit judges, one of whom must have presided  
 32 | over a mental health court or drug court, appointed by the chair  
 33 | of the Conference of Circuit Judges of Florida.

34 | (d) Two county court judges, appointed by the chair of the  
 35 | Conference of County Court Judges of Florida.

36 | (e) A justice of the Supreme Court or judge of a district  
 37 | court of appeal, appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme  
 38 | Court.

39 | (f) A representative of the Florida State University  
 40 | Project on Accountable Justice, appointed by the chair of the  
 41 | organization's executive board.

42 | (g) A representative from a victim's advocacy group,  
 43 | appointed by the Governor from a list of three nominees  
 44 | recommended by the chairs of the committees in the Senate and  
 45 | the House of Representatives with jurisdiction over criminal  
 46 | justice matters.

47 | (h) Two county commissioners, appointed by the Florida  
 48 | Association of Counties.

49 | (i) A formerly incarcerated individual who has  
 50 | demonstrated exceptional commitment to rehabilitation and

51 community improvement, appointed by the Governor from a list of  
52 three nominees jointly recommended by the chairs of the  
53 committees in the Senate and House of Representatives with  
54 jurisdiction over criminal justice matters.

55 (j) Two representatives of the faith community, either  
56 clergy or employees of faith-based policy organizations,  
57 appointed by the Governor from a list of three nominees jointly  
58 recommended by the chairs of the committees in the Senate and  
59 the House of Representatives with jurisdiction over criminal  
60 justice matters.

61 (k) The chairs of the committees of the Senate and House  
62 of Representatives with jurisdiction over criminal justice  
63 matters, or their designees.

64 (l) Two designees of the Executive Office of the Governor  
65 with demonstrated knowledge in the criminal justice field.

66 (m) The Attorney General or his or her designee.

67 (n) The Secretary of Corrections or his or her designee.

68 (o) The Secretary of Juvenile Justice or his or her  
69 designee.

70 (p) The president of the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys  
71 Association or his or her designee.

72 (q) The president of the Florida Public Defender  
73 Association or his or her designee.

74 (r) The president of the Florida Association of Criminal  
75 Defense Lawyers or his or her designee.

76        (s) The president of the Florida Sheriffs Association or  
77 his or her designee.

78        (t) The president of the Florida Police Chiefs Association  
79 or his or her designee.

80        (2) TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP.—Appointments to the task force  
81 shall be made within 30 days of the effective date of this act.  
82 For appointments that are selected from a list of nominees  
83 jointly recommended by the chairs of the committees of the  
84 Senate and the House of Representatives with jurisdiction over  
85 criminal justice matters, the respective chairs shall submit the  
86 names of nominees to the Governor within 15 days of the  
87 effective date of this act. All members shall serve for the  
88 duration of the task force. Any vacancy shall be filled by the  
89 original appointing authority for the remainder of the task  
90 force. The task force membership must reflect the racial,  
91 gender, geographic, and economic diversity of the state, as well  
92 as the diversity and demographics of the state's prison  
93 population. Any member may be removed by the Governor for  
94 misfeasance, malfeasance, or willful neglect of duty.

95        (3) DUTIES.—

96        (a) The task force is authorized and directed to study,  
97 evaluate, analyze, and undertake a comprehensive review of the  
98 state's adult criminal justice system, using a data-driven  
99 approach, to develop sentencing and corrections policy  
100 recommendations for proposed legislation that will accomplish

101 the following goals:

102 1. Reduce correctional populations and associated  
103 correctional spending by focusing prison capacity on serious  
104 offenses and violent criminals.

105 2. Hold offenders accountable more efficiently by  
106 implementing or expanding research-based supervision and  
107 sentencing practices.

108 3. Reinvest savings into strategies shown to decrease  
109 recidivism, including reentry outcomes.

110 (b) The task force shall request technical assistance from  
111 nongovernmental research groups, including, but not limited to,  
112 the Justice Reinvestment Initiative. The Department of  
113 Corrections, the Department of Law Enforcement, the Office of  
114 the State Courts Administrator, the Department of Juvenile  
115 Justice, the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government  
116 Accountability, and any other state agency or department shall  
117 provide assistance, data, and other information to the task  
118 force upon request.

119 (4) MEETINGS.—The task force shall hold its first meeting  
120 within 60 days of the effective date of this act, upon the call  
121 of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
122 Representatives. At the first meeting, the task force shall  
123 elect a chair and any other offices as it deems necessary from  
124 among its membership. The task force shall hold a minimum of  
125 four regular meetings. The task force shall meet upon the call

126 of the chair or a request of a majority of the membership. A  
127 majority of the membership of the task force constitutes a  
128 quorum. All members must be notified in writing of all meetings  
129 at least 5 days before the date on which a meeting of the task  
130 force is scheduled. However, an emergency meeting may be held  
131 without the 5 days' written notice if the meeting is scheduled  
132 at the request of the entire membership.

133 (5) REPORT.—The task force shall submit a report of its  
134 findings, conclusions, and recommendations for proposed  
135 legislation to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of  
136 the House of Representatives by the date of convening of the  
137 2018 Regular Session of the Legislature. Upon submission of the  
138 report, the task force is dissolved and discharged of further  
139 duties.

140 (6) STAFFING.—The President of the Senate and the Speaker  
141 of the House of Representatives shall appoint an executive  
142 director and are authorized to assign legislative staff to  
143 provide support for the task force.

144 (7) PUBLIC RECORDS AND PUBLIC MEETINGS.—The task force is  
145 subject to policies governing public records disclosure  
146 prescribed in the joint rules of the Senate and the House of  
147 Representatives. All meetings of the task force must be open to  
148 the public, and regularly scheduled meetings must be publicly  
149 noticed at least 5 days before the date of the meeting. The task  
150 force shall maintain records of its meetings.

151           (8) PER DIEM AND TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Task force members shall  
152 serve without compensation but are entitled to receive  
153 reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses as provided in s.  
154 112.061, Florida Statutes.

155           (9) EXPIRATION.—This section expires January 31, 2018.  
156           Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.