

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Statewide Task Force on Opioid
 3 Drug Abuse; creating the Statewide Task Force on
 4 Opioid Drug Abuse; providing purpose; providing for
 5 membership of the task force; providing for
 6 reimbursement of per diem and travel expenses for
 7 members of the task force; requiring that the
 8 Department of Legal Affairs provide the task force
 9 with necessary staff; specifying a date for the task
 10 force's organizational session; providing meeting
 11 requirements; providing the duties of the task force;
 12 requiring that the task force submit reports to the
 13 Legislature; providing for future repeal; providing an
 14 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. Statewide Task Force on Opioid Drug Abuse.—

19 (1) The Legislature declares that the purpose of this act
 20 is to create a task force to examine and analyze the problem of
 21 Opioid Drug Abuse in the State of Florida.

22 (2) (a) There is created within the Department of Legal
 23 Affairs the Statewide Task Force on Opioid Drug Abuse. The task
 24 force, as defined in s. 20.03, Florida Statutes, is created for
 25 the express purpose of researching opioid drug abuse, evaluating

26 | effective strategies for education, interdiction, arrest,
27 | prosecution, treatment and prevention, and providing policy
28 | recommendations to the Legislature. Except as otherwise provided
29 | in this section, the task force shall comply with the
30 | requirements of s. 20.052, Florida Statutes.

31 | (b) The task force shall consist of the following members
32 | or the member's designee:

33 | 1. A representative appointed by the Attorney General, who
34 | shall serve as chair.

35 | 2. A representative appointed by the State Surgeon
36 | General, who shall serve as vice chair.

37 | 3. A representative appointed by the Commissioner of
38 | Education.

39 | 4. A representative appointed by the Commissioner of the
40 | Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

41 | 5. A representative appointed by the Secretary of Children
42 | and Families.

43 | 6. A representative appointed by the Secretary of Health
44 | Care Administration.

45 | 7. A representative appointed by the Secretary of
46 | Corrections.

47 | 8. A representative appointed by the Secretary of Juvenile
48 | Justice.

49 | 9. A representative appointed by the President of the
50 | Senate.

51 10. A representative appointed by the Speaker of the House
52 of Representatives.

53 11. Two sheriffs appointed by the Attorney General.

54 12. Two police chiefs appointed by the Attorney General.

55 13. Two state attorneys appointed by the Attorney General.

56 14. Two public defenders appointed by the Attorney
57 General.

58 15. A representative appointed by the State Courts
59 Administrator.

60 16. Three representatives from addiction and recovery
61 associations appointed by the Attorney General. The
62 representatives shall each be from different parts of the state.

63 17. A representative from the Florida Medical Association.

64 18. A representative from the Florida Pharmacy
65 Association.

66 19. A representative from the insurance industry.

67 (c) Members of the task force are entitled to receive
68 reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses pursuant to s.
69 112.061, Florida Statutes.

70 (d) The Department of Legal Affairs shall provide the task
71 force with staff necessary to assist the task force in the
72 performance of its duties.

73 (3) The task force shall hold its organizational session
74 by July 15, 2019. Thereafter, the task force shall meet at least
75 four times per year. Additional meetings may be held if the

76 | chair determines that extraordinary circumstances require an
77 | additional meeting. A majority of the members of the task force
78 | constitutes a quorum.

79 | (4) The task force shall:

80 | (a) Collect and organize data concerning the nature and
81 | extent of opioid drug abuse in this state, including, but not
82 | limited to, the overdose death rate, the neonatal abstinence
83 | syndrome statistics, the Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey,
84 | Automation of Reports Consolidated Orders System data, and the
85 | Drug Enforcement Administration seizure data for opioids,
86 | including Fentanyl and Synthetic Fentanyl.

87 | (b) Collect and organize data concerning the current costs
88 | to state and local government associated with the interdiction,
89 | prosecution, incarceration, education, monitoring, and treatment
90 | of opioid abuse and misuse in the state.

91 | (c) Identify available federal, state, and local programs
92 | that provide services to combat opioid drug abuse.

93 | (d) Identify and evaluate best practices for the treatment
94 | of opioid drug abuse.

95 | (e) Identify and evaluate the sources of opioids being
96 | abused and misused and causes of opioid drug abuse.

97 | (f) Identify whether there is a need for additional
98 | regulatory activity, including scheduling or emergency
99 | scheduling of synthetic opioid derivatives, including synthetic
100 | fentanyl derivatives.

101 (g) Identify and evaluate ways to reduce the demand for
102 opioids, including, but not limited to, alternative nonopioid
103 pain management.

104 (h) Identify and evaluate ways to reduce the supply of
105 opioids to opioid drug abusers, including increased monitoring,
106 expanded interdiction, and multiagency cooperation among law
107 enforcement entities at all levels.

108 (i) Identify and evaluate training and resources needed by
109 law enforcement officers to deal with users and addicts of
110 opioid drugs.

111 (j) Identify and evaluate best practices for law
112 enforcement encounters with arrestees and others suffering from
113 opioid addiction.

114 (k) Identify and evaluate best practices for postarrest,
115 predisposition treatment for arrestees suffering from opioid
116 addiction.

117 (l) Identify and evaluate alternatives to conviction or
118 incarceration for arrestees suffering from opioid addiction.

119 (m) Identify and evaluate programs and protocols for
120 consideration and use with inmates suffering from opioid
121 addiction.

122 (n) Identify and evaluate programs for dealing with minors
123 suffering from opioid drug abuse and addiction.

124 (o) Identify and evaluate education programs for children,
125 young adults, and adults about the dangers of opioid abuse and

126 misuse.

127 (p) Evaluate methods to increase public awareness of the
128 dangers of opioid abuse and misuse.

129 (q) Develop a list of projects and priorities to be funded
130 by the Legislature or from other sources, including the proceeds
131 arising from any judgments or settlements with opioid
132 manufacturers, distributors, or others related to opioid drug
133 abuse.

134 (5) At the chair's direction, the task force shall be free
135 to break into subcommittees or other smaller groups to
136 accomplish the objectives outlined above and to present their
137 findings or information to the taskforce as a whole.

138 (6) The task force shall submit an interim report of its
139 recommendations by December 1, 2019, a second interim report of
140 its recommendations by January 15, 2021, and a final report of
141 its recommendations by June 30, 2022. Each report shall be
142 submitted to the to the President of the Senate and the Speaker
143 of the House of Representatives.

144 (7) This section is repealed on the earlier of the date of
145 the submission of the final report or June 30, 2022.

146 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.