

ARKANSAS SENATE
85th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2005
Amendment Form

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 1030

"THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON ABUSED AND NEGLECTED
CHILDREN."

Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill No. 1030.

Amend Senate Bill No. 1030 as originally introduced:

Page 1, delete the title and substitute:

"AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN; TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF ITS MEMBERS; TO DESCRIBE ITS MISSION AND RESPONSIBILITIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

AND

Delete everything after the enacting clause and substitute:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 10, Chapter 3 is amended to add an additional subchapter to read as follows:

10-3-2201. Title.

This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Abused and Neglected Children Act".

10-3-2202. Creation.

(a) There is created the Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Abused and Neglected Children.

(b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

(1) The Governor or the Governor's designee;

(2) A member of the House Interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(3) A member of the Senate Interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

(4) The Chair of the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth or the chair's designee;

(5) The Chair of the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs or the chair's designee;

(6) The Director of the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Human Services or the director's designee;

(7) The Director of the Division of Mental Health Services of the Department of Human Services or the director's designee;



(8) The Director of the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human Services or the director's designee;

(9) The Director of the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education of the Department of Human Services or the director's designee;

(10) The Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts or the director's designee;

(11) The Chair of the Arkansas Coalition for Juvenile Justice or the chair's designee;

(12) A sheriff to be appointed by the President of the Arkansas Sheriffs' Association;

(13) The Director of the Department of Arkansas State Police or the director's designee;

(14) The Chair of the State Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board or the chair's designee;

(15) One (1) member of the Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission to be appointed by the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences;

(16) A public defender who regularly appears in the juvenile division of a circuit court in the State of Arkansas to be appointed by the Director of the Arkansas Public Defender Commission;

(17) A prosecutor who regularly appears in the juvenile division of a circuit court in the State of Arkansas appointed by the Prosecutor Coordinator;

(18) An attorney ad litem appointed by the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts;

(19) A physician with special knowledge and experience in the treatment of children who have been abused or neglected;

(20) The Chief of Staff of Arkansas Children's Hospital or his or her designee;

(21) Two (2) members to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate with specialized knowledge, skills, or experience in the area of child welfare or the prevention of child abuse and neglect;

(22) Two (2) members to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives with specialized knowledge, skills, or experience in the area of child welfare or the prevention of child abuse and neglect;

(23) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Code Revision Commission or the director's designee; and

(24) The Director of the Bureau of Legislative Research or the director's designee.

(c)(1) The Chair of the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth or the chair's designee shall call the first meeting within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this act and shall serve as chair at the first meeting.

(2) At the first meeting, the members of the task force shall elect from its membership a chair and other officers as needed for the transaction of its business.

(3)(A) The task force shall conduct its meetings in Pulaski County at the State Capitol.

(B) Meetings shall be held at least one (1) time every three (3) months but may occur more often at the call of the chair.

(d) If any vacancy occurs on the task force, the vacancy shall be

filled by the same process as the original appointment.

(e) The task force shall establish rules and procedures for conducting its business.

(f) Members of the task force shall serve without compensation, but may receive expense reimbursement according to § 25-16-902.

(g) A majority of the members of the task force shall constitute a quorum for transacting any business of the task force.

(h) The Bureau of Legislative Research shall provide staff for the task force.

10-3-2203. Duties.

The Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Abused and Neglected Children shall:

(1) Examine how the State of Arkansas responds to child abuse and neglect with a focus on the following main areas using a child-centered approach:

(A) Reporting, investigating, and multidisciplinary cooperation;

(B) Legal advocacy for children in courts;

(C) Foster care and adoption;

(D) Training and workforce needs;

(E) Criminal justice and public safety;

(F) Neglect and family support; and

(G) Accountability;

(2) Determine the best practices to prevent child abuse and neglect and to improve child welfare by conducting national research or by using other methods;

(3) Recommend more efficient methods of distributing and spending limited public moneys to prevent child abuse and neglect and to improve child welfare;

(4) Recommend how to obtain more federal funds to prevent child abuse and neglect and to improve child welfare;

(5) Recommend to the General Assembly specific changes to the law that will improve child safety and welfare in the State of Arkansas in the form of bill drafts; and

(6) Provide the legislature with a written explanation of the recommended legislative changes."

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator Malone
JSE/JSE - 03-16-2005 15:37
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Secretary