

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 85th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2005
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2874

5 By: Representatives W. Lewellen, Clemons, Rainey
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE TASKFORCE FOR THE STUDY OF
10 THE HOMELESS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12 TO CREATE THE TASKFORCE FOR THE STUDY OF
13 THE HOMELESS.
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
18

19 SECTION 1. (a) There is created the Taskforce for the Study of the
20 Homeless.

21 (b) The taskforce shall be composed of fifteen (15) members as
22 follows:

23 (1) Two (2) members shall be appointed by the Governor;

24 (2) Two (2) members shall be appointed by the President Pro
25 Tempore of the Senate;

26 (3) Two (2) members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the
27 House of Representatives;

28 (4) One (1) member shall be appointed by the Chair of the Senate
29 Interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor;

30 (5) One (1) member shall be appointed by the Chair of the House
31 Interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor;

32 (6) One (1) member shall be appointed by the Chair of the Senate
33 Interim Committee on City, County, and Local Affairs;

34 (7) One (1) member shall be appointed by the Chair of the House
35 Interim Committee on City, County, and Local Affairs;

36 (8) The Director of the Department of Human Services or his or



1 her designee;

2 (9) The Director of the Division of Aging and Adult Services of
3 the Department Human Services or his or her designee;

4 (10) The Director of the Division of Behavioral Health of the
5 Department of Human Services or his or her designee;

6 (11) The Director of the Department of Health or his or her
7 designee; and

8 (12) The Director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs or his
9 or her designee.

10 (c) The terms of the members of the taskforce shall expire on December
11 31, 2006.

12 (d) If a vacancy occurs on the taskforce, a successor shall be
13 appointed in the same manner as provided for the initial appointment.

14 (e) A chairperson shall be selected by the members of the taskforce.

15 (f) The chair shall call the first meeting, which shall be held no
16 later than sixty (60) days after the effective date of this act.

17 (g) The taskforce shall meet no less than quarterly at dates to be
18 determined by the chair.

19 (h) The members of the taskforce shall serve without compensation and
20 shall not receive per diem, mileage, or stipends.

21 (i) The taskforce shall receive staff support from the Bureau of
22 Legislative Research.

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24 SECTION 2. (a) The purpose of the Taskforce for the Study of the
25 Homeless is to collect data and other information concerning the homeless
26 within the State of Arkansas.

27 (b) The taskforce shall:

28 (1) Collect data to determine an approximate number of homeless
29 persons within the State of Arkansas;

30 (2) Collect information to ascertain the reason for becoming
31 homeless;

32 (3) Assess the needs of the homeless within the State of
33 Arkansas;

34 (4) Survey the current resources for services for the homeless;

35 (5) Evaluate the current and future needs for these services;

36 and

1 (6) Determine the programs and services needed to find jobs and
2 homes for the homeless, to provide health care and mental health care to the
3 homeless, to provide rehabilitation services to the homeless who suffer from
4 substance abuse, and to provide the education needed to reduce the number of
5 homeless persons.

6 (c)(1) The findings and recommendations of the taskforce shall be
7 submitted to the Legislative Council, the President Pro Tempore of the
8 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

9 (2) The taskforce shall make its final report along with any
10 recommendations for proposed legislation to the Legislative Council no later
11 than October 1, 2006.

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