

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

A Bill

SENATE BILL 1154

4
5 By: Senator J. Jeffress
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE TASK FORCE ON MENTAL HEALTH
10 TREATMENT SERVICES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12
13 AN ACT TO CREATE THE TASK FORCE ON
14 MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT SERVICES.
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19 SECTION 1. (a) There is created the "Task Force on Mental Health
20 Treatment Services".

21 (b) The task force shall be composed of the following members:

22 (1) One (1) member of the Senate appointed by the President Pro
23 Tempore of the Senate;

24 (2) The Chair of the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare
25 and Labor; and

26 (3) One (1) member of the House of Representatives appointed by
27 the Speaker of the House.

28 (c) The task force shall also have ten (10) advisory members to be
29 appointed by the task force chair as follows:

30 (1) Six (6) members recommended by the organization for Training
31 and Research for Adult and Children Services;

32 (2) One (1) member recommended by the Arkansas State Substance
33 Abuse Treatment Providers Association;

34 (3) One (1) member recommended by the Arkansas Association of
35 Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors;

36 (4) One (1) member recommended by the Division of Mental Health



1 Services of the Department of Human Services; and

2 (5) One (1) member recommended by the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug
3 Abuse Prevention.

4 (d)(1) The terms of the legislative members of the task force shall
5 expire on December 31 of each even numbered year.

6 (2) Advisory members shall serve at the pleasure of the
7 organizations they represent.

8 (e) Vacancies on the task force shall be filled in the same manner as
9 provided for in the initial appointment.

10 (f) The chair shall be one (1) of the legislative members of the task
11 force and shall be selected by the legislative members of the task force.

12 (g)(1) The task force shall meet as often as is deemed necessary by
13 the chair.

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

16 (h) The members of the task force shall serve without compensation and
17 shall not receive per diem, mileage, or stipends.

18 (i) The task force shall receive staff support from the Bureau of
19 Legislative Research.

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21 SECTION 2. (a) The purpose of the Task Force on Mental Health
22 Treatment Services is to assess statewide delivery and funding of mental
23 health treatment services.

24 (b) The task force will strive to achieve the following:

25 (1) Assess state mental health treatment needs and evaluate the
26 current service delivery system and its capacity to respond to those current
27 and projected treatment needs;

28 (2) Examine state interagency referral trends and continuity of
29 care to include the identification of service duplication and service
30 overlap;

31 (3) Determine accurate statewide service costs and identify more
32 cost effective means for the delivery of mental health treatment services and
33 the identification of available revenue streams, underutilized revenue, and
34 uncaptured revenue;

35 (4) Carry out a cost-benefit analysis of mental health treatment
36 services to include outcome benefits for the development of policy and

1 procedure reform; and

2 (5) Make recommendations for the strategic development and
3 implementation of efficient and effective quality care measures.

4 (c)(1) The findings and recommendations of the task force shall be
5 submitted to the legislative leaders, state department directors, state
6 providers, and other appropriate parties for collaborative reform.

7 (2)(A) The task force shall report to the Legislative Council,
8 the Senate Interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor, and the
9 House Interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor.

10 (B) The report shall be submitted no later than October 1
11 of each even numbered year.

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