

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

As Engrossed: S4/1/05  
**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 1154

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

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

### 12 Subtitle

13 AN ACT TO CREATE THE TASK FORCE ON  
14 MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT SERVICES.  
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16

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 twenty-six (26) advisory members to  
29 be 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;

2 (5) Four (4) members recommended by the Arkansas Coalition of  
3 Private Treatment Providers of Mental Health;

4 (6) Two (2) members recommended by the Mental Health Council of  
5 Arkansas;

6 (7) One (1) member recommended by the Arkansas Advocates for  
7 Children and Families;

8 (8) One (1) member recommended by the Arkansas Hospital  
9 Association;

10 (9) One (1) member recommended by the Child and Adolescent  
11 Service System Program;

12 (10) One (1) member recommended by the Arkansas Mental Health  
13 Counselors Association;

14 (11) One (1) member recommended by NAMI-Arkansas;

15 (12) One (1) member recommended by the Arkansas School  
16 Counselors Association;

17 (13) One (1) member recommended by Arkansas Mental Health  
18 Planning and Advisory Council;

19 (14) Two (2) members recommended by National Association of  
20 Psychiatric Health Systems;

21 (15) One (1) member recommended by the state Medicaid program;  
22 and

23 (16) One (1) member recommended by the Bureau of Alcohol and  
24 Drug Abuse Prevention.

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

27 (2) Advisory members shall serve at the pleasure of the  
28 organizations they represent.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

10       (1) Assess state mental health treatment needs and evaluate the  
11 current service delivery system and its capacity to respond to those current  
12 and projected treatment needs;

13       (2) Examine state interagency referral trends and continuity of  
14 care to include the identification of service duplication and service  
15 overlap;

16       (3) Determine accurate statewide service costs and identify more  
17 cost effective means for the delivery of mental health treatment services and  
18 the identification of available revenue streams, underutilized revenue, and  
19 uncaptured revenue;

20       (4) Carry out a cost-benefit analysis of mental health treatment  
21 services to include outcome benefits for the development of policy and  
22 procedure reform;

23       (5) Evaluate existing councils, coalitions, associations, and  
24 organizations that are concerned about mental health services in the State of  
25 Arkansas to determine whether there are collaborative opportunities to  
26 improve communications, partnerships, and problem solving for mental health  
27 issues in the State of Arkansas;

28       (6) Evaluate the outcomes, recommendations, and progress made as  
29 a result of the Governor's Mental Health System Task Force and past mental  
30 health work groups to determine whether further action needs to be taken; and

31       (7) Make recommendations for the strategic development and  
32 implementation of efficient and effective quality care measures.

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

36       (2)(A) The task force shall report to the Legislative Council,

1 the Senate Interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor, and the  
2 House Interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor.

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

5 (d) On request, the Department of Human Services and service providers  
6 operating under contract with the State of Arkansas shall provide to the  
7 Mental Health System Task Force information regarding service needs and  
8 funding through community and state based options to meet the needs of  
9 individuals.

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11 /s/ J. Jeffress  
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