

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 86th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2007

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2333

4
5 By: Representative Allen
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE TASK FORCE ON SUBSTANCE
10 ABUSE PREVENTION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12
13 AN ACT TO CREATE THE TASK FORCE ON
14 SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION.
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 64 is amended to add an
20 additional subchapter to read as follows:

21 20-64-1101. Findings – Purpose.

22 (a) The General Assembly finds:

23 (1) There is a great need to develop and recommend long-range
24 alternative means for reducing the ever-growing and costly demands on the
25 substance abuse treatment and criminal justice systems in the State of
26 Arkansas;

27 (2) Research models have demonstrated that the prevention of
28 early initiation into alcohol and drug use and other risky behaviors requires
29 a sustained communitywide effort;

30 (3) Community-wide substance abuse prevention efforts must
31 target the life spectrum and must include efforts to curb the misuse of
32 common household products, over-the-counter medications, prescription
33 medicines, alcohol, and illegal substances;

34 (4) To date, very few state resources have been invested to
35 prevent one of the most ubiquitous and costly issues confronting our state,
36 that is, substance abuse;



1 (5) Most substance abuse prevention efforts within Arkansas have
2 been at the mercy of the federal government rather than at the direction of
3 the state; and

4 (6) Consequently, as federal resources wane, so do substance
5 abuse prevention efforts throughout this state.

6 (b) The purpose of this subchapter is the improvement of substance
7 abuse prevention programs in the state.

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9 20-64-1102. Task Force on Substance Abuse Prevention – Creation.

10 (a) The Task Force on Substance Abuse Prevention is created.

11 (b) The task force shall be composed of the following twenty-one (21)
12 members:

13 (1) Two (2) Senators appointed by the President Pro Tempore of
14 the Senate;

15 (2) Two (2) members of the House of Representatives appointed by
16 the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

17 (3) One (1) member recommended by the Arkansas Prevention
18 Certification Board;

19 (4) Three (3) members recommended by the Bureau of Alcohol and
20 Drug Abuse Prevention, to include one (1) member representative of substance
21 abuse prevention providers;

22 (5) One (1) member recommended by the Regional Prevention
23 Resource Centers;

24 (6) Two (2) members recommended by the Arkansas Prevention
25 Network;

26 (7) Two (2) members recommended by the Department of Education-
27 Safe and Drug Free Schools program, to include one (1) member who is a
28 Department of Education-safe and drug free schools program state-level
29 coordinator and one (1) member who is a Department of Education-safe and drug
30 free schools program coordinator of a local education agency;

31 (8) One (1) member recommended by the Arkansas Collegiate Drug
32 Education Committee;

33 (9) One (1) member recommended by the Arkansas regional office
34 of Mothers Against Drunk Driving;

35 (10) One (1) member recommended by the University of Arkansas at
36 Little Rock MidSOUTH Prevention Institute;

1 (11) One (1) member recommended by the Hometown Health
 2 Improvement Office of the Division of Health of the Department of Health and
 3 Human Services;

4 (12) One (1) member recommended by the Arkansas Child
 5 Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission;

6 (13) One (1) member recommended by the College of Health and
 7 Behavioral Science of the University of Central Arkansas;

8 (14) One (1) member recommended by the Arkansas Drug Director;
 9 and

10 (15) One (1) member recommended by the Head Start Office of the
 11 Department of Health and Human Services.

12 (c) The terms of the legislative members of the task force shall
 13 expire on December 31 of each even-numbered year.

14 (d) Nonlegislative members shall serve at the pleasure of the
 15 organizations they represent.

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

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

20 (g) The task force shall meet as often as is deemed necessary by the
 21 chair.

22 (h) The chair shall call the first meeting, which shall be held no
 23 later than sixty (60) days after date of effective date of this subchapter.

24 (i) The members of the task force shall serve without compensation and
 25 shall not receive per diem, mileage, or stipends.

26 (j) The task force shall receive staff support from the Bureau of
 27 Legislative Research.

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 29 20-64-1103. Task Force on Substance Abuse Prevention – Duties.

30 (a) The Task Force on Substance Abuse Prevention shall:

31 (1) Evaluate the current substance abuse prevention service
 32 delivery system and its capacity to respond to current and projected
 33 prevention needs across the full life spectrum, from the prenatal state and
 34 early childhood development through adolescence and until the conclusion of
 35 adult life;

36 (2) Assess the degree of community awareness across the state of

1 the value of effective evidence-based substance abuse prevention;

2 (3) Assess financial resources available to invest in substance
3 abuse prevention programs and to identify all available revenue streams,
4 including underutilized revenue and uncaptured revenue;

5 (4) Identify all active substance abuse prevention programs in
6 each county throughout the state and determine the specific areas of the
7 state where prevention programs are inadequate or absent; and

8 (5) Make recommendations designed to improve and increase
9 sustainable substance abuse prevention services throughout the state,
10 including identifying of methods to enhance the development and support of
11 effective community-based programs.

12 (b) The task force shall submit an annual report to the Legislative
13 Council, the Senate Interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor,
14 and the House Interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor no later
15 than October 1 of each even-numbered year.

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17 SECTION 2. (a) The initial findings and recommendations of the task
18 force shall be circulated for review and comment to legislators, affected
19 state agency directors, state substance abuse prevention providers, and other
20 appropriate parties desiring collaborative reform of substance abuse
21 prevention programs.

22 (b) The task force shall submit the final report to the Legislative
23 Council, the Senate Interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor,
24 and the House Interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor.

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