

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1622

5 By: Representative A. Collins  
6 By: Senator J. Boyd  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE HEART ATTACK TASK FORCE; TO  
10 PROVIDE FOR THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE HEART ATTACK  
11 TASK FORCE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
12  
13

## Subtitle

15 TO CREATE THE HEART ATTACK TASK FORCE;  
16 AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE POWERS AND DUTIES  
17 OF THE HEART ATTACK TASK FORCE.  
18  
19

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
21

22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 8, is amended to add an  
23 additional subchapter to read as follows:

24 Subchapter 12 – Heart Attack Task Force  
25

26 20-8-1201. Legislative findings.

27 The General Assembly finds that:

28 (1) Heart diseases are the leading cause of death in the United  
29 States;

30 (2) The heart attack morality rate in Arkansas is among the  
31 highest in the nation; and

32 (3) Recommendations developed by experts working together can  
33 assist the State Board of Health in developing standards and policies to  
34 reduce the human and financial costs of heart attacks in Arkansas.  
35

36 20-8-1202. Heart Attack Task Force – Creation – Membership.



1           (a)(1) There is created a Heart Attack Task Force to consist of  
2 fourteen (14) members to include members from all national organizations in  
3 this area of concern.

4           (2)(A) All national organizations shall have local chapters.

5                   (B) If an organization no longer has a local chapter, the  
6 total number of members may be reduced to reflect that the organization has  
7 no local chapter in this state and no member may be appointed to represent  
8 the organization.

9           (b) The Secretary of the Department of Health shall appoint:

10           (1) One (1) member to represent the Department of Health;

11           (2) One (1) member to represent the American Heart Association  
12 and the American Stroke Association;

13           (3) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Minority Health  
14 Commission;

15           (4) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Hospital  
16 Association, Inc.;

17           (5) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Foundation for  
18 Medical Care, Inc.;

19           (6) One (1) member to represent the College of Public health of  
20 the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences;

21           (7) One (1) member to represent the American College of  
22 Cardiology;

23           (8) One (1) member to represent emergency medical services;

24           (9) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Medical Society,  
25 Inc.;

26           (10) One (1) member to represent the medical insurance industry;

27           (11) One (1) member to represent the community at large;

28           (12) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Pharmacists  
29 Association;

30           (13) One (1) member to represent the American College of  
31 Emergency Physicians; and

32           (14) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Nurses  
33 Association.

34           (c)(1) Except for the initial members, members shall serve three-year  
35 terms.

36           (2) The initial members shall be assigned by lot so as to

1 stagger terms to equalize as nearly as possible the number of members to be  
 2 appointed each year.

3 (d) If a vacancy occurs, the secretary shall appoint a person who  
 4 represents the same constituency as the member being replaced.

5 (e) The task force shall elect one (1) of its members to act as chair  
 6 for a term of one (1) year.

7 (f) A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the  
 8 transaction of business.

9 (g) The task force shall meet as necessary to further the intent and  
 10 purpose of this subchapter.

11  
 12 20-8-1203. Powers and duties.

13 The Heart Attack Task Force shall:

14 (1) Make recommendations to the State Board of Health consistent  
 15 with the intent and purpose of this subchapter;

16 (2) Pursue both public and private funding to further the intent  
 17 of this subchapter; and

18 (3) Develop standards and policy recommendations including  
 19 without limitation the following:

20 (A) Methods for raising public awareness of the prevalence  
 21 and treatment considerations for heart attacks;

22 (B) The professional development of emergency medical  
 23 services professionals to identify victims of heart attacks;

24 (C) The professional development of emergency room and  
 25 hospital personnel to identify and treat victims of potential heart attacks;

26 (D) Methods for encouraging the use of accepted or  
 27 emerging treatments, when appropriate;

28 (E) Methods for ensuring that a comprehensive range of  
 29 heart attack recovery services are available to Arkansans recovering physical  
 30 and mental functions affected by a heart attack;

31 (F) Methods for developing heart attack treatment centers;  
 32 and

33 (G) Methods for developing and implementing a state heart  
 34 attack registry.