



General Assembly

February Session, 2022

Raised Bill No. 5435

LCO No. 2163



Referred to Committee on APPROPRIATIONS

Introduced by:
(APP)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE ON SUBSTANCE USE
DISORDER SERVICES AND THE EXPENDITURE OF OPIOID
LITIGATION SETTLEMENT FUNDS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to review substance use disorder programs and services available in the
3 state and make recommendations concerning the expenditure of opioid
4 litigation settlement funds. In reviewing such programs and services,
5 the task force shall examine issues, including, but not limited to, the
6 following: (1) Treatment and rehabilitation services currently available,
7 and that are needed, for persons with substance use disorder, (2) the
8 regulation and operation of facilities, including opioid treatment
9 dispensaries, that provide services for persons with substance use
10 disorder, (3) the state's current expenditures on programs and services
11 for persons with substance use disorder, and (4) the anticipated funding
12 needed to support effective substance abuse programs and services.

13 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

14 (1) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing

15 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
16 relating to public health, human services and appropriations and the
17 budgets of state agencies, or their designees;

18 (2) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
19 one of whom shall be a representative of a nonprofit agency that
20 provides substance use disorder services, and one of whom shall be a
21 representative of a for-profit agency that provides substance use
22 disorder services;

23 (3) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of
24 whom shall be a current or former consumer of substance use disorder
25 services in the state and one of whom shall be the family member of a
26 current consumer of substance use disorder services in the state;

27 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
28 Representatives, who shall be a representative of a group supporting
29 persons with substance use disorder;

30 (5) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be
31 a representative of a facility offering substance use disorder
32 rehabilitation services;

33 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
34 Representatives, who shall be a licensed alcohol and drug counselor;

35 (7) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be
36 a licensed health care provider;

37 (8) The Commissioners of Public Health, Social Services and Mental
38 Health and Addiction Services, or the commissioners' designees.

39 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),
40 (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) or (7) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member
41 of the General Assembly.

42 (d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later
43 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall

44 be filled by the appointing authority.

45 (e) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
46 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and
47 the budgets of state agencies, or their designees, shall be the
48 chairpersons of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule the first
49 meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days
50 after the effective date of this section. The chairpersons may establish
51 working groups and may appoint persons other than members of the
52 task force to serve as members of the working groups. Such persons may
53 include, but need not be limited to: (1) Licensed alcohol and drug
54 counselors; (2) municipal police chiefs; (3) emergency medical services
55 personnel; and (4) representatives of organizations that provide
56 education, prevention, intervention, referrals, rehabilitation or support
57 services to individuals with substance use disorder or chemical
58 dependency.

59 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
60 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
61 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies shall serve as
62 administrative staff of the task force.

63 (g) Not later than January 1, 2023, the task force shall submit a report
64 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of
65 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
66 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, public health and
67 human services, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of
68 the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it
69 submits such report or January 1, 2023, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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Statement of Purpose:

To establish a task force to review and make recommendations concerning substance use disorder programs and services available in the state and the expenditure of opioid litigation settlement funds.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]