



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 committees  
 65 of 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:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**APP**      *Joint Favorable*