



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

**Raised Bill No. 919**

LCO No. 3097



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:  
(PH)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY CHILDHOOD AND ADULT PSYCHOSIS.***

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 study childhood and adult psychosis. Such study shall include, but  
3 need not be limited to, an examination of (1) the establishment of, in  
4 collaboration with the Departments of Children and Families and  
5 Mental Health and Addiction Services, clinics staffed by mental health  
6 care providers in various fields who provide comprehensive care for  
7 children and adults who are experiencing symptoms of early or first  
8 episode psychosis to prevent symptoms from becoming disabling, (2)  
9 early evaluation of children and adults with symptoms of a psychosis  
10 and management of such symptoms, including, but not limited to,  
11 initiating treatments and making any necessary referrals for additional  
12 treatment or services, (3) creating (A) care pathways that include  
13 specialty teams that treat children and adults who are experiencing  
14 early or first episode psychosis, (B) a state-wide model for coordinating  
15 specialty care for children and adults experiencing psychosis, as  
16 recommended by the National Institute of Mental Health, and (C)

17 services for such children and adults, including, but not limited to,  
18 collaboration on psychotherapy and pharmacotherapy, family support,  
19 education, coordination with community support services and  
20 collaboration with employers and education systems, and (4)  
21 strengthening existing clinical networks that treat children and adults  
22 experiencing psychosis with a focus on collaborative research and  
23 outcomes. As used in this subsection, "psychosis" means a severe mental  
24 condition in which disruptions to a person's thoughts and perceptions  
25 make it difficult for the person to recognize what is real and what is not  
26 real and are often experienced as seeing, hearing and believing things  
27 that are not real or having strange, persistent thoughts, behaviors and  
28 emotions, including, but not limited to, hallucinations and delusions.

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

30 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

31 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

32 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
33 Representatives;

34 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

35 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
36 Representatives;

37 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

38 (7) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, or  
39 the commissioner's designee; and

40 (8) The Commissioner of Children and Families, or the  
41 commissioner's designee.

42 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),  
43 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member  
44 of the General Assembly.

45 (d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later  
46 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall  
47 be filled by the appointing authority.

48 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro  
49 tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from  
50 among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule  
51 the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty  
52 days after the effective date of this section.

53 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
54 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public  
55 health shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

56 (g) Not later than January 1, 2024, the task force shall submit a report  
57 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of  
58 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public  
59 health, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general  
60 statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such  
61 report or January 1, 2024, whichever is later.

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

**Statement of Purpose:**

To establish a task force to study childhood and adult psychosis.

*[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.]*