
DIGEST

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HB 595 Original

2020 Regular Session

Davis

Abstract: Creates the Task Force on Opioid Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery and provides for its duties and functions.

Proposed law creates the Task Force on Opioid Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery, referred to hereafter as the "task force". Provides that the purposes of the task force shall include:

- (1) Leading a statewide policy response, coordinating resources, and engaging stakeholders across Louisiana concerning prevention and treatment of opioid use disorder.
- (2) Developing recommendations on an annual basis to inform legislative and executive actions that address opioid use prevention, treatment, and recovery.

Proposed law provides that the task force shall be composed of the following 18 members:

- (1) The governor or his designee.
- (2) The chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare or his designee.
- (3) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare or his designee.
- (4) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee.
- (5) The secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services or his designee.
- (6) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections or his designee.
- (7) The superintendent of state police or his designee.
- (8) The attorney general or his designee.
- (9) The commissioner of insurance or his designee.
- (10) A judge from a drug division of a district court appointed by the chief justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court.
- (11) A representative of the Louisiana Society of Addiction Medicine appointed by the governor.

- (12) A representative of the Louisiana Psychiatric Medical Association appointed by the governor.
- (13) A representative of the Louisiana Primary Care Association appointed by the governor.
- (14) A representative of the school of medicine of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at New Orleans appointed by the governor.
- (15) A representative of the school of medicine of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at Shreveport appointed by the governor.
- (16) A representative of the Louisiana Hospital Association appointed by the governor.
- (17) A representative of the Louisiana Rural Hospital Association appointed by the governor.
- (18) A person who is in recovery from substance use disorder or an immediate family member of such a person appointed by the governor. Proposed law provides that this task force member may be an immediate family member of a person who is deceased.

Proposed law provides that the governor or his designee, the chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare or his designee, and the chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare or his designee shall co-chair the task force.

Proposed law requires that the task force meet at least once every quarter, with meetings to be called by the co-chairs.

Proposed law requires the task force to form from among its members the following committees:

- (1) A committee on prevention.
- (2) A committee on treatment.
- (3) A committee on recovery.

Proposed law authorizes the task force to engage and solicit input, recommendations, and guidance pertaining to substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery from stakeholders and other interested parties.

Proposed law provides that the task force shall serve in an advisory capacity to the governor, the speaker of the House, and the president of the Senate and shall develop policy recommendations annually to address substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery. Requires that the policy recommendations of the task force include, without limitation, all of the following:

- (1) Regulatory changes that specific agencies should pursue independent of executive or legislative action to improve access to treatment, enhance prevention efforts, and strengthen recovery support services.

- (2) Executive action that the governor should take to address substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery needs across the state.
- (3) Legislative action to improve substance use treatment, expand prevention efforts, and strengthen recovery support services.
- (4) Action that should be taken by the state and local governments to limit harm resulting from the use of drugs and reduce the number of overdose deaths.

Proposed law requires the task force to report the policy recommendations developed in accordance with proposed law to the governor, the speaker of the House, and the president of the Senate on or before December 31 annually.

(Adds R.S. 28:781-786 and R.S. 36:259(B)(37))