

HOUSE BILL No. 2688

By Committee on Appropriations

2-7

1 AN ACT establishing the behavioral health task force.

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3 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

4 Section 1. (a) There is hereby established the behavioral health task
5 force to study the behavioral health system in the state of Kansas. The
6 Kansas department for aging and disability services shall provide
7 administrative assistance to facilitate the organization and meetings of any
8 working group convened by the task force. The department shall provide
9 assistance to working groups to prepare and publish meeting agendas,
10 public notices, meeting minutes and any research, data or information
11 requested by a working group.

12 (b) The behavioral health task force shall consist of the following
13 members, each to be appointed by the respective appointing authority on
14 or before July 15, 2018:

15 (1) One member of the Kansas house of representatives appointed by
16 the:

- 17 (A) Speaker of the Kansas house of representatives;
- 18 (B) majority leader of the Kansas house of representatives; and
- 19 (C) minority leader of the Kansas house of representatives;

20 (2) one member of the Kansas senate appointed by the:

- 21 (A) President of the Kansas senate;
- 22 (B) majority leader of the Kansas senate; and
- 23 (C) minority leader of the Kansas senate;

24 (3) one member appointed by the association of community mental
25 health centers of Kansas;

26 (4) one member appointed by the Kansas association of addiction
27 professionals;

28 (5) one member appointed by the Kansas sheriffs' association;

29 (6) one member appointed by the Kansas hospital association;

30 (7) one member appointed by the Kansas association of school
31 boards;

32 (8) one member appointed by the Kansas mental health coalition; and

33 (9) one member appointed by the Kansas psychiatric society;

34 (10) the secretary for aging and disability services or the secretary's
35 designee, who shall be a non-voting member; and

36 (11) the secretary of health and environment or the secretary's

1 designee, who shall be a non-voting member.

2 (c) (1) The senator appointed by the president of the Kansas senate
3 shall serve as the first chairperson of the behavioral health task force and
4 the representative appointed by the speaker of the Kansas house of
5 representatives shall serve as the first vice-chairperson of the task force.
6 The positions of chairperson and vice-chairperson shall alternate annually
7 upon the first meeting of the task force in each calendar year.

8 (2) The behavioral health task force may meet in an open meeting at
9 any time and at any place within the state of Kansas upon the call of the
10 chairperson. The task force shall meet at least six times per calendar year.

11 (3) A majority of the voting members of the behavioral health task
12 force constitute a quorum. Any action by the task force shall be by motion
13 adopted by a majority of voting members present when there is a quorum.

14 (4) Any vacancy on the behavioral health task force shall be filled by
15 appointment in the manner prescribed in this section for the original
16 appointment.

17 (d) (1) The behavioral health task force shall convene working groups
18 to study the following topics: The general administration and oversight of
19 the behavioral health system by the Kansas department for aging and
20 disability services; state mental health hospitals; the continuum of care for
21 behavioral health services; and payment for behavioral health services.

22 (2) On or before August 15, 2018, the chairperson and vice-
23 chairperson of the behavioral health task force and the members appointed
24 under subsections (b)(1)(C) and (b)(2)(C) shall jointly appoint the
25 chairperson and vice-chairperson of each working group from the
26 members of the task force. The chairperson and vice-chairperson of each
27 working group shall jointly appoint members to the working group, each
28 working group consisting of not more than seven non-task force members
29 and not fewer than two task force members. Any non-task force member
30 appointed to a working group shall possess specific expertise related to the
31 working group's assigned topic of study.

32 (e) The behavioral health task force and each working group
33 convened by the task force shall study the following topics:

34 (1) The level of oversight by the Kansas department for aging and
35 disability services over each entity that provides services to individuals
36 receiving public funds for behavioral health services;

37 (2) the duties, responsibilities and contributions of state agencies,
38 nongovernmental entities and service providers that provide behavioral
39 health services in the state of Kansas;

40 (3) the level of access to behavioral health services in the state of
41 Kansas;

42 (4) the increasing number of suicides in Kansas; and

43 (5) any other topic the behavioral health system task force or working

1 group deems necessary or appropriate.

2 (f) The behavioral health task force and each working group
3 convened by the task force shall consider, at a minimum, the 2014
4 governor's mental health task force report, any reports commissioned by
5 the governor's behavioral health services planning council, the 2016 adult
6 continuum of care committee report and the 2017 children's continuum of
7 care committee report.

8 (g) The Kansas department for aging and disability services shall,
9 upon request by the behavioral health task force, provide data and
10 information relating to the behavioral health system in the state of Kansas
11 that is not otherwise prohibited or restricted from disclosure by state or
12 federal law, including conditions imposed by federal law or rules and
13 regulations for participation in federal programs administered by the
14 secretary for aging and disability services.

15 (h) The behavioral health task force shall submit a preliminary
16 progress report to the legislature detailing the task force's study under this
17 section on or before January 10, 2019, and a final report to the legislature
18 detailing the task force's study on or before January 17, 2020.

19 (i) The behavioral health task force's report shall include
20 recommended improvements to the behavioral health system in the state of
21 Kansas, including recommended changes to current law and rules and
22 regulations, whether an ongoing task force or similar advisory or oversight
23 entity would aid in addressing behavioral health system concerns and any
24 other topics the behavioral health task force deems appropriate.

25 (j) Staff of the office of revisor of statutes, the legislative research
26 department and the division of legislative administrative services shall
27 provide assistance as may be requested by the behavioral health system
28 task force, including assistance to a legislative task force member serving
29 on a working group, subject to approval by the legislative coordinating
30 council.

31 (k) (1) Subject to approval by the legislative coordinating council,
32 members of the behavioral health task force attending meetings authorized
33 by the task force shall be paid amounts provided in K.S.A. 75-3223(e), and
34 amendments thereto, except that task force members who are employed by
35 a state agency shall be reimbursed by such state agency.

36 (2) Non-task force members of working groups convened by the
37 behavioral health system task force attending meetings of such working
38 groups shall be paid by the Kansas department for aging and disability
39 services amounts provided in K.S.A. 75-3223(e), and amendments thereto,
40 except that non-task force members who are employed by a state agency
41 shall be reimbursed by such state agency.

42 (l) The provisions of this section shall expire on June 30, 2020.

43 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its

- 1 publication in the Kansas register.