ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 1486

By: Paulk of the House

and

Cain of the Senate

An Act relating to health care; re-creating the Advisory Task Force on SoonerCare; providing for termination of Task Force; providing for membership, appointments, election of chair, meetings, quorum, support staff, travel reimbursement, compliance with Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, duties of Task Force, and report; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5009.3 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby re-created until February 15, 2001, the Advisory Task Force on SoonerCare. The members of the Task Force appointed pursuant to enrolled House Bill No. 2280 of the 2nd Session of the 46th Oklahoma Legislature shall be reappointed. Any position vacancy occurring on the Task Force shall be filled by the appointing authority and pursuant to subsection B of this section.

B. The Task Force shall consist of twenty-two (22) members as follows:

1. Three members representing hospitals, selected from a list of names submitted by a statewide hospital organization;

2. Three primary care physicians, selected from a list of names submitted by statewide organizations representing allopathic or osteopathic physicians;

3. Three emergency room physicians, selected from a list of names submitted by statewide organizations representing allopathic or osteopathic physicians;

4. Three members representing participating health maintenance organizations;

5. Three members representing the Oklahoma Health Care Authority;

6. Three members representing the Department of Human Services;

7. Three members who are enrollees in SoonerCare at the time of their appointment; and

8. Commissioner of Health or designee.

C. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Governor shall each appoint one member from each of the above categories.

D. The members shall choose a chair from among their membership. The Advisory Task Force on SoonerCare shall meet no less than monthly.

E. A majority of members of the Task Force shall constitute a quorum to transact business, but no vacancy shall impair the right of the remaining members to exercise all of the powers of the Task Force. The Oklahoma Health Care Authority shall provide such staff support as is required by the Task Force.

F. Members of the Advisory Task Force on SoonerCare shall receive no compensation for serving on the Task Force, but shall receive travel reimbursement as follows:

1. State employee members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act; and

2. Members of the Task Force who are not otherwise officers or employees of the state shall be reimbursed by the Legislative

Service Bureau in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

G. The proceedings of all meetings of the Task Force shall comply with the provisions of the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5009.4 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The duties of the Advisory Task Force on SoonerCare shall include:

1. Addressing methods of educating SoonerCare members regarding access to and proper utilization of emergency medical services provided by hospitals and other health care providers;

2. Reviewing the eligibility determination process of the Department of Human Services to ensure accuracy on physician assignments and adequacy of education regarding availability of and access to services;

3. Reviewing issues related to notification of participants by contracting providers as a condition of payment;

4. Actively promoting equitable reimbursement rates for emergency room screening; and

5. Addressing patient and provider educational endeavors necessary for expansion of SoonerCare to the Aged, Blind and Disabled and Title XXI populations.

B. The Task Force shall make recommendations to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than January 31, 2001.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the House of Representatives the 24th day of February, 1999.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1999.

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President of the Senate