

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 47th Legislature (1999)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1354

By: Gray

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to public health and safety; establishing the Oklahoma Long-term Care Task Force; providing for membership; providing for appointment, vacancies, quorum, and travel reimbursement; specifying duties; requiring a report; requiring cooperation; providing for input; specifying termination date; providing for noncodification; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

A. 1. There is hereby established the Oklahoma Long-term Care Task Force. The Task Force shall be composed of twenty-one (21) members. The Governor shall appoint seven members, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint seven members and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint seven members. The members shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

2. The Director of the Department of Human Services, the chief executive officer of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority and the Commissioner of Health or their designees shall serve as ex officio nonvoting members of the Task Force.

B. Vacancies shall be filled by the appointing authority where such vacancy exists.

C. The Task Force shall elect from its membership a chairperson, a vice-chairperson and a secretary.

D. A majority of the members appointed to the Task Force shall constitute a quorum and a majority present at a meeting may act for the Task Force.

E. Members shall be reimbursed by their appointing authority for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties pursuant to the provisions of the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

F. The Task Force may divide into subcommittees in furtherance of its purposes.

G. The Task Force shall recommend a state continuum of care system which provides for a variety of long-term care services for the elderly of the state. Included in this continuum shall be Adult Day Care Services, Home Health Care Services, Assisted Living Services and Nursing Home Services and all other services designated by the Task Force as necessary in a continuum of care system.

H. The Task Force shall examine the current use of long-term care facilities in the state and make recommendations for new continuum of care facilities which may include more than one long-term care service in their facility. The Task Force shall recommend a system of licensure for each level of the proposed continuum and shall recommend rules for consideration by the Board of Health which shall include the following:

1. A uniform comprehensive resident assessment instrument to measure the needs and capabilities of residents in all settings;

2. Physical plant requirements meeting construction and life safety codes;

3. Staffing levels responsive to the needs of residents at all levels of the continuum;

4. Emphasis on quality outcomes for residents;

5. Requirements for individualized services chosen by and designed for each resident; and

6. Procedures for inspections and investigations of all licensed facilities.

I. The Task Force shall recommend licensure fees and application requirements for each level of the continuum of care.

The Task Force shall also recommend penalties for violations of rules relating to the continuum of care licensing process.

J. The Task Force shall work with the Oklahoma Health Care Authority and the State Department of Health in the development of an acuity-based funding system for long-term care in Oklahoma. Such system shall recognize the costs involved with residents of differing acuity circumstances. Such system shall provide categories of funding for the different acuity levels of residents in the long-term care system in the state.

K. The Task Force shall study the various long-term care programs currently being provided in the State of Oklahoma and shall make recommendations concerning a comprehensive state policy regarding long-term care for the state.

L. The Task Force shall work with the State Health Department, the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, the Department of Human Services and all other related agencies and long-term care providers in developing a proposed policy for the state.

M. The Task Force shall actively seek and consider input from the public, the business community, long-term care organizations, organizations for elderly or retired persons, public interest organizations, professional organizations, or any other group or person who has an interest in the long-term care programs of this state and the work of the Task Force. The Task Force shall solicit and accept written comments, recommendations and proposals and shall hold public hearings to obtain comments from the public.

N. All departments, officers, agencies and employees of this state shall cooperate with the Task Force in carrying out its duties and responsibilities, including providing any information, records and reports as may be requested by the Task Force.

O. The Task Force shall submit a final report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro

Tempore of the Senate no later than February 1, 2000, regarding the findings and recommendations of the Task Force.

P. The Task Force shall terminate on June 1, 2000.

SECTION 2. 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.

47-1-5154          KSM          6/11/15