

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 22, 1999

Committee Substitute for
ENGROSSED
Senate Bill No. 661

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 661 -- By TAYLOR, MORGAN and WILLIAMS of the Senate and BENSON, ADKINS and MITCHELL of the House.

An Act relating to public health and safety; establishing until certain date the Oklahoma Continuum of Care Task Force; providing for membership, appointment of members, vacancies, quorum, officers, convening of the first meeting, meetings and travel reimbursement; specifying duties; requiring cooperation of certain entities; providing for input; requiring a report; 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 until June 1, 2000, the Oklahoma Continuum of Care Task Force. The Task Force shall be composed of twenty-one (21) members, seven of whom shall be appointed by each the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

B. 1. Members shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority. A vacancy on the Task Force shall be filled by the original appointing authority.

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

3. The President Pro Tempore shall appoint the Chair of the Task Force from among the Pro Tempore's appointees and the Speaker shall appoint the Vice Chair from among the Speaker's appointees. The President Pro Tempore and the Speaker shall alternate responsibility for appointing such officers.

4. The Chair of the Task Force shall convene the first meeting of the Task Force on or before July 1, 1999.

5. The Task Force shall determine meeting dates; provided, however, the Task Force shall meet not less than quarterly.

Members shall not be compensated for their service but shall be reimbursed by their appointing authorities for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, pursuant to the provisions of the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

C. 1. The Task Force:

- a. shall study the various long-term care programs currently being provided in this state and shall make recommendations concerning a comprehensive state policy regarding long-term care,
- b. may divide into subcommittees in furtherance of its purpose,
- c. shall work with the State Department of Health, 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,

- d. 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 groups or persons with an interest in the long-term care programs of this state and the work of the Task Force, and
- e. shall solicit and accept written comments, recommendations and proposals, and shall hold public hearings to obtain comments from the public.

2. All departments, officers, agencies and employees of the state shall cooperate with the Task Force in carrying out its duties and responsibilities, including, but not limited to, providing any information, records and reports as may be requested by the Task Force.

D. The Task Force shall submit a final report to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on or before February 1, 2000, regarding the findings and recommendations of the Task Force.

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.