

EHB 3143

THE STATE SENATE
Monday, April 7, 2008

ENGROSSED

House Bill No. 3143

As Amended

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 3143 - By: Cargill and Cooksey of the House
and Adelson of the Senate.

An Act relating to poor persons; creating the Compassionate Care Task Force; providing for membership; providing for appointment of chair and vice-chair; providing for travel reimbursement; directing State Department of Health to provide staff; directing meetings be subject to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act; stating duties of Task Force; requiring submission of written progress report to certain persons; providing for codification; providing an effective date; 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 3121 of Title 56, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created until July 1, 2010, the "Compassionate Care Task Force". The Compassionate Care Task Force shall be composed of the following members:

1. The Attorney General, or a designee;
2. The Commissioner of the State Department of Health, or a designee;
3. The Director of the Department of Human Services, or a designee;

1 4. The Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health and
2 Substance Abuse Services, or a designee;

3 5. The Director of the Office of Faith-Based and Community
4 Initiatives, as created under the direction of the Secretary of
5 Health and Human Services in July 2000, or a designee;

6 6. Two bipartisan members of the Oklahoma House of
7 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of
8 Representatives;

9 7. Two bipartisan members of the Oklahoma State Senate
10 appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate;

11 **8. One member of the Oklahoma City-County Health Department;**
12 **and**

13 **9. One member of the Tulsa City-County Health Department.**

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

17 2. A majority of the members of the Task Force shall constitute
18 a quorum. A majority of the members present at a meeting may act
19 for the Task Force.

20 3. The chair shall be appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma
21 House of Representatives on or before August 1, 2008. The vice-
22 chair shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the
23 Oklahoma State Senate on or before August 1, 2008.

1 4. The chair shall convene the first meeting of the Task Force
2 on or before September 1, 2008. The Task Force shall meet as often
3 as necessary.

4 5. Task Force members employed by the state shall be reimbursed
5 for travel expenses related to their service on the Task Force by
6 their respective agencies pursuant to the provisions of the State
7 Travel Reimbursement Act. Legislative members of the Task Force
8 shall be reimbursed for their necessary travel expenses incurred in
9 the performance of their duties in accordance with Section 456 of
10 Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

11 C. Staff of the State Department of Health shall serve as
12 primary staff for the Task Force. The Task Force may use the
13 expertise and services of the staffs of the Oklahoma House of
14 Representatives and the Oklahoma State Senate and may, if necessary,
15 seek the advice and services of experts in the field as well as
16 other necessary professional and clerical staff.

17 D. All departments, officers, agencies and employees of this
18 state shall cooperate with the Task Force in fulfilling its duties
19 and responsibilities including, but not limited to, providing any
20 information, records, or reports requested by the Task Force.

21 E. The meetings of the Task Force shall be subject to the
22 Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

1 F. The Compassionate Care Task Force shall determine and make
2 recommendations regarding:

3 1. The role of charitable, voluntary, and faith-based
4 organizations in the Oklahoma health care system;

5 2. The role of charitable, voluntary, and faith-based
6 organizations in community-based health education, advocacy and
7 direct care for the uninsured;

8 3. The role of charitable, voluntary, and faith-based
9 organizations in improving access to health care and ensuring
10 affordable and stable health care coverage;

11 4. The level of collaboration between charitable, voluntary,
12 and faith-based organizations and public health agencies in the
13 state;

14 5. The utilization of health-related services currently being
15 provided by charitable, voluntary, and faith-based organizations in
16 the state; and

17 6. The role of charitable, voluntary, and faith-based
18 organizations and the pandemic influenza preparedness plan for
19 Oklahoma.

20 G. The Compassionate Care Task Force shall provide a progress
21 report in electronic form to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore
22 of the Oklahoma State Senate and the Speaker of the Oklahoma House
23 of Representatives on or before March 1 of each year.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2008.

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

6 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN RESOURCES, dated
7 4-3-08 - DO PASS, As Amended.