

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 HOUSE BILL 3255

By: Pittman

4  
5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to public health and safety; creating  
8 the Task Force on Statewide Minority Acquired Immune  
9 Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) Screening; providing for  
10 membership; providing for appointment of cochairs;  
11 providing for vacancies; providing for travel  
reimbursement; providing for administrative support;  
12 providing for duties; requiring certain report;  
13 providing for noncodification; providing an effective  
14 date; and declaring an emergency.

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

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

18 A. There is hereby created, to continue until February 1, 2009,  
19 the "Task Force on Statewide Minority Acquired Immune Deficiency  
20 Syndrome (AIDS) Screening".

21 B. The Task Force shall consist of nine (9) members:

22 1. Three members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the  
23 Oklahoma House of Representatives as follows:  
24

- a. one member from a nonprofit organization that provides Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) screening, and
- b. two members of the Oklahoma House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

2. Three members shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate as follows:

- a. one member who is an individual diagnosed with AIDS, and
- b. two members of the State Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate;

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

4. The Commissioner of the State Department of Health, or a designee; and

5. The Director of a community program that promotes health awareness to be appointed by the Governor.

C. One appointed member from the Oklahoma House of Representatives and one appointed member from the State Senate shall serve as cochairs of the Task Force. The appointed members from the Oklahoma House of Representatives and State Senate shall choose the cochairs by agreement. The cochairs shall convene the first meeting of the Task Force. The members of the Task Force shall elect any

1 other officers during the first meeting. Vacancies of Task Force  
2 members shall be filled by the original appointing authority. The  
3 Task Force shall meet as often as necessary.

4 D. Appointments to the Task Force shall be made by September 1,  
5 2008.

6 E. A majority of the members of the Task Force shall constitute  
7 a quorum. A majority of the members present at a meeting may act  
8 for the Task Force.

9 F. Nonlegislative members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed  
10 by their respective agencies for necessary travel expenses incurred  
11 in the performance of duties pursuant to the provisions of the State  
12 Travel Reimbursement Act. Legislative members of the Task Force  
13 shall be reimbursed for necessary travel expenses incurred in the  
14 performance of duties in accordance with the provisions of Section  
15 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

16 G. Administrative support for the Task Force including, but not  
17 limited to, personnel necessary to ensure the proper performance of  
18 the duties and responsibilities of the Task Force, shall be provided  
19 by the State Department of Health to be supplemented, if necessary,  
20 by the state agencies involved in the Task Force, and the staff of  
21 the House of Representatives and the State Senate. All  
22 participating state agencies shall provide for any administrative  
23 support requested by the Task Force.

24 H. The Task Force shall:

1           1. Assess the problem of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome  
2 (AIDS) in our minority community including the availability of  
3 access to Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) testing and  
4 treatment;

5           2. Review programs nationally that have had success in  
6 promoting Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) testing and  
7 lowering Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) infections; and

8           3. In coordination with the State Department of Health, expend  
9 appropriated dollars from the state as grants for a pilot program  
10 for innovative and effective strategies to promote Acquired Immune  
11 Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) testing.

12           I. The Task Force shall publish a report of findings and  
13 recommendations by February 1, 2009, including recommendations for  
14 any resulting legislation or actions the state can implement to  
15 increase AIDS testing and awareness.

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

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

21

22           51-2-9207           SAB           01/15/08

23

24