

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 CONCURRENT
3 RESOLUTION NO. 32

By: Coates of the Senate

and

Jackson of the House

4
5
6
7 A Concurrent Resolution creating the Task Force on
8 Youth Transitioning into Adulthood; providing for
9 purpose, composition, appointments, staff support and
10 report of task force.

11 WHEREAS, educational, drug treatment, mental health,
12 rehabilitation, and medical services plans provided by the state to
13 help at-risk teens come to an abrupt halt when youth "age out" of
14 the system; and

15 WHEREAS, the financial investment by the state in these youth
16 can range from \$8,260 for a young person in foster care for one year
17 to over \$108,000 per year for a youth in juvenile institutional
18 care; and

19 WHEREAS, the state's investment will be squandered if the state
20 does not also ensure a productive transition for these youth into
21 the job market, stable housing and independent living; and

22 WHEREAS, each and every child in Oklahoma deserves a chance to
23 work toward a productive future.
24

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
2 OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
3 CONCURRING THEREIN:

4 SECTION 1. A. There is hereby created until November 30, 2010,
5 the Task Force on Youth Transitioning into Adulthood to study
6 policies and programs to assist youth as they transition into
7 adulthood through education, behavioral health, social services,
8 housing, and employment services. The task force shall:

9 1. Conduct an in-depth study of the populations of youth who
10 are not served or who are inadequately served as they transition
11 into adulthood, including, but not limited to:

- 12 a. youth who are currently in or are preparing to exit
13 the juvenile justice system,
- 14 b. youth who are currently in or are preparing to exit
15 the foster care system,
- 16 c. youth who are homeless, and
- 17 d. youth who have a serious mental health or substance
18 abuse condition;

19 2. Study issues that directly impact the ability of youth to
20 transition into adulthood, including, but not limited to:

- 21 a. financial independence,
- 22 b. life skills, and
- 23 c. transportation;

24

1 3. Study current state and federal programs that assist youth
2 as they transition into adulthood, including program criteria and
3 barriers;

4 4. Generate input from youth about their personal experience
5 with programs and issues that impact their ability to transition
6 into adulthood;

7 5. Generate input from providers of youth transitioning
8 programs about issues that impact their ability to provide quality
9 services;

10 6. Explore the creation of new state programs to ensure that
11 young people in Oklahoma who do not qualify for existing programs
12 can be served;

13 7. Examine various methods, including but not limited to tax
14 credits, that can be used to incentivize businesses to hire young
15 people; and

16 8. Provide recommendations for legislation to implement the
17 findings of the task force.

18 B. The task force shall be composed of fifteen (15) members as
19 follows:

20 1. The Director of the Department of Human Services or
21 designee;

22 2. The Executive Director of the Office of Juvenile Affairs or
23 designee;

24

1 3. One member from the Governor's Task Force on Economic
2 Development to be appointed by the Governor;

3 4. Six members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the
4 Senate as follows:

- 5 a. one member from the Senate,
- 6 b. one member from the State Department of Education with
7 experience in alternative education,
- 8 c. one member from the Oklahoma Employment Security
9 Commission,
- 10 d. one member from the Oklahoma Department of Commerce,
- 11 e. one member from the Oklahoma Department of Career and
12 Technology Education, and
- 13 f. one member from the Department of Mental Health and
14 Substance Abuse Services; and

15 5. Six members appointed by the Speaker of the House of
16 Representatives as follows:

- 17 a. one member from the House of Representatives,
- 18 b. one member from a Job Corps Center in Oklahoma,
- 19 c. one member from an association of Youth Service
20 Agencies in the state,
- 21 d. one member from an association of child advocates in
22 the state,
- 23 e. one member from a chamber of commerce in the state,
24 and

1 f. one member from a publicly operated local workforce
2 investment area.

3 C. The members of the task force shall serve at the pleasure of
4 the appointing authority.

5 D. The Director of the Department of Human Services, or
6 designee, and the Executive Director of the Office of Juvenile
7 Affairs, or designee, shall serve as co-chairs for the task force.

8 E. A quorum of the task force shall be required in order for
9 any final action of the task force.

10 F. Members of the task force shall receive no compensation for
11 their service, but shall receive travel reimbursement as follows:

12 1. Legislative members of the task force shall be reimbursed
13 for necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their
14 duties in accordance with the provisions of Section 456 of Title 74
15 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

16 2. Nonlegislative members of the task force shall be reimbursed
17 for necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their
18 duties in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

19 G. Staff support for the task force shall be provided by the
20 Office of Juvenile Affairs.

21 H. The task force shall conduct its initial meeting not later
22 than fifteen (15) days after the effective date of this act.

23 I. The task force shall report its findings, including any
24 legislative recommendations, to the President Pro Tempore of the

1 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the
2 Governor by November 30, 2010.

3 Adopted by the Senate the 22nd day of May, 2009.

4

5

Presiding Officer of the Senate

6

7 Adopted by the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
8 2009.

9

10

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24