

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Thursday, February 19, 2009

**House Concurrent  
Resolution No. 1009**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1009 - By: TIBBS of the House.

A Concurrent Resolution creating the Task Force to Study Methadone-related Deaths; providing for membership; providing for vacancies; providing for designation of cochairs; specifying quorum; specifying administrative support; providing for travel reimbursement; providing for duties; and requiring certain report.

1 WHEREAS, in recent years methadone has contributed to more Oklahoma deaths  
2 than any other drug; and

3 WHEREAS, Oklahoma deaths resulting from methadone use more than doubled  
4 from 2002 to 2006; and

5 WHEREAS, methadone is increasingly prescribed as a painkiller and the vast  
6 majority of deaths from methadone are due to an unintentional overdose; and

7 WHEREAS, it is paramount for Oklahoma to study and address this growing  
8 problem.

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

1 THAT there is hereby created, to continue until January 1, 2011, the “Task Force to  
2 Study Methadone-related Deaths”.

3 THAT the Task Force shall consist of eleven (11) members:

4 1. The Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs  
5 Control or a designee;

6 2. The Executive Director of the Board of Pharmacy or a designee;

7 3. A representative from the Poison Control Center;

8 4. A physician appointed by the State Board of Osteopathic Examiners;

9 5. A provider of methadone services to be appointed by the Governor;

10 6. The Commissioner of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services or a  
11 designee;

12 7. The Chief Medical Examiner or a designee;

13 8. A representative sheriff from the Oklahoma Sheriffs and Peace Officers  
14 Association;

15 9. The Executive Director of the Oklahoma District Attorneys Association or a  
16 designee;

17 10. A member from the Oklahoma House of Representatives to be appointed by the  
18 Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives; and

19 11. A member of the Oklahoma State Senate to be appointed by the President Pro  
20 Tempore of the State Senate.

21 THAT members shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authorities. A  
22 vacancy on the Task Force shall be filled by the appointing authority.

1 THAT appointments to the Task Force shall be made by September 1, 2009.

2 THAT the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the President  
3 Pro Tempore of the State Senate shall each designate a cochair from among the members  
4 of the Task Force.

5 THAT the cochairs shall convene the first meeting of the Task Force by October 1,  
6 2009.

7 THAT a majority of the members present at a meeting shall constitute a quorum to  
8 conduct business.

9 THAT members of the Task Force shall receive no compensation for their service,  
10 but shall receive travel reimbursement as follows:

11 1. Nonlegislative members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed by their  
12 appointing authorities pursuant to the provisions of the State Travel Reimbursement  
13 Act; and

14 2. Legislative members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed in accordance with  
15 the provisions of Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

16 THAT administrative support for the Task Force including, but not limited to,  
17 personnel necessary to ensure the proper performance of the duties and responsibilities  
18 of the Task Force shall be provided by the staff of the Oklahoma House of  
19 Representatives and the State Senate. All participating state agencies shall provide for  
20 any additional administrative support requested by the Task Force.

21 THAT the Task Force shall study and make recommendations relating to deaths  
22 associated with methadone.

1            THAT the Task Force shall issue a report of its recommendations to the Legislature  
2 and Governor no later than December 1, 2010.  
3 DIRECT TO CALENDAR: 02-19-09