

1 regarding the causes and prevention of suicides among veterans in
2 the state.

3 B. The task force shall be comprised of nine (9) members to be
4 appointed as follows:

5 1. One member who is a veteran appointed by the Oklahoma
6 Veterans Commission;

7 2. One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of
8 Representatives;

9 3. One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
10 Representatives;

11 4. One member appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the
12 Senate;

13 5. One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate;

14 6. One member who is a veteran appointed by the Commissioner of
15 the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
16 Services;

17 7. One member employed by the Oklahoma State Department of
18 Health appointed by the Commissioner of Health;

19 8. One member employed by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans
20 Affairs appointed by the Executive Director of the Oklahoma
21 Department of Veterans Affairs; and

22 9. One member who is a veteran appointed by the Governor.

23 C. Appointments to the task force shall be made within sixty
24 (60) days after the effective date of this act. The appointing

1 authorities shall coordinate their appointments so that diversity of
2 gender, race, and geographical areas are reflective of the makeup of
3 this state. To the extent practicable, the appointing authorities
4 shall appoint a veteran to serve on the task force.

5 D. The task force shall conduct an organizational meeting not
6 later than November 1, 2023. A chair and vice chair shall be
7 selected to serve by the membership of the task force at the
8 organizational meeting. The task force may meet as often as may be
9 required to perform the duties imposed upon it.

10 E. The task force shall organize and prioritize its objectives.
11 The task force may coordinate, communicate, and collaborate with
12 state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, public and
13 private health care entities, and state educational institutions
14 regarding issues associated with veteran suicide.

15 F. A quorum of the task force shall be required to approve any
16 final action of the task force. For purposes of this section, five
17 (5) members shall constitute a quorum.

18 G. The meetings of the task force shall be subject to the
19 Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

20 H. Members of the task force shall receive no compensation or
21 travel reimbursement.

22 I. The Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs and the House of
23 Representatives shall provide staff and administrative support for
24 the task force.

1 J. The task force shall submit a report of its findings and
2 recommendations no later than November 30, 2024, to the Speaker of
3 the House of Representatives, President Pro Tempore of the Senate,
4 and Governor.

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6 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS,
7 dated 02/08/2023 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.

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