

1 HJR320
2 90654-1
3 By Representatives Todd, Newton (D), Scott, Hall, Dunn and
4 Moore (M)
5 RFD: Rules
6 First Read: 12-APR-07

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8 CREATING THE ALABAMA POVERTY TASK FORCE.

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10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
11 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is hereby created the
12 Poverty Task Force. The task force shall consist of the
13 following members:

14 (1) The Chair of the House of Representatives
15 Government Appropriations Committee, or a designee.

16 (2) The Chair of the Senate Children, Youth Affairs
17 and Human Resources Committee, or a designee.

18 (3) The Director of the Department of Children's
19 Affairs, or a designee.

20 (4) The Director of the Alabama Department of
21 Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA), or a designee.

22 (5) The Commissioner of the Alabama Medicaid Agency,
23 or a designee.

24 (6) One person living in poverty appointed by
25 Alabama ARISE.

26 (7) A representative of Alabama ARISE.

27 (8) A representative of the Alabama Poverty Project.

1 (9) A representative of the adult day services
2 industry.

3 (10) A representative of the Greater Birmingham
4 Ministries.

5 Members shall serve without compensation but may be
6 reimbursed for expenses incurred in attending meetings from
7 their respective appointing agencies according to agency
8 policies for expense reimbursement.

9 The members of the task force shall be inclusive and
10 reflect the racial, gender, geographic, urban/rural, and
11 economic diversity of the state.

12 The Governor shall call the first meeting of the
13 task force at which time the members shall elect a chair and
14 vice-chair.

15 The Alabama Department of Economic and Community
16 Affairs (ADECA) shall provide necessary administrative support
17 for the task force.

18 The task force shall assess the current and future
19 impact of poverty on the residents of Alabama, shall examine
20 the existing barriers, services, and resources addressing the
21 needs of persons living in poverty and their families, and
22 shall develop a strategy to mobilize a state response to the
23 poverty crisis.

24 The task force shall include an examination of the
25 following in its assessment and recommendations:

26 (1) A determination of the economic and human impact
27 of poverty in Alabama.

1 (2) A review of remedies to reduce the number of
2 individuals and families living in poverty in Alabama.

3 (3) Legislative remedies for consideration in the
4 2008 Regular Session.

5 (4) Needed state policies or responses, including,
6 but not limited to, directions for the provision of clear and
7 coordinated services and supports to persons and families
8 living in poverty and strategies to address any identified
9 gaps in services.

10 The task force shall hold public meetings and
11 utilize technological means, such as web casts, to gather
12 feedback on the recommendations from the general public and
13 from persons and families affected by poverty.

14 The task force shall submit its findings and
15 recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature in the
16 form of a State Anti-Poverty Plan no later than March 1, 2008,
17 at which time the task force shall terminate and stand
18 dissolved and discharged from any further duties and
19 liabilities.

20 Each legislative member of the task force shall be
21 entitled to his or her regular legislative compensation, his
22 or her per diem, and travel expenses for each day he or she
23 attends a meeting of the task force. These payments shall be
24 paid out of any funds appropriated to the use of the
25 Legislature by means of warrants drawn by the state
26 Comptroller on the State Treasury. Notwithstanding the
27 foregoing, no member shall receive additional legislative

1 compensation or per diem when the Legislature is in session or
2 if a member is being paid any other payments on the same dates
3 for attendance on other state business. The total expenditures
4 of the committee shall not exceed five thousand dollars
5 (\$5,000).