

HJR21 INTRODUCED



1 HJR21
2 JJBHFFN-1
3 By Representative Reynolds
4 RFD: RULES
5 First Read: 07-Feb-24



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HJR___ AMENDING AND REENACTING ACT 2023-383, HJR204, 2023
REGULAR SESSION, WHICH CREATED THE OVERSIGHT COMMISSION ON
ALABAMA OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS, TO INCREASE THE MEMBERSHIP
OF THE COMMISSION.

WHEREAS, Act 2023-383, HJR204, 2023 Regular Session,
created the 16 member Oversight Commission on Alabama Opioid
Settlement Funds to develop a statewide plan for the
investment and use of opioid settlement funds and review the
expenditure thereof. That resolution is amended and
reenacted to increase the membership of the commission to
read as follows:

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has reached settlement
agreements with several parties that will provide millions
of dollars to the state for an undetermined period of years
for the abatement of the opioid crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that priorities
for the investment of opioid settlement funds should include
programs and services with evidence-based results in the
treatment and prevention of opioid use and addiction; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that judicious
investment of the opioid settlement funds on behalf of
Alabama taxpayers and those impacted by the opioid crisis is
critical and requires a collaborative effort between the
Legislature, the Executive Branch, experts, and



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29 stakeholders; now therefore,

30 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
31 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the
32 Oversight Commission on Alabama Opioid Settlement Funds to
33 develop a statewide plan for the investment and use of
34 opioid settlement funds and review the expenditure of funds
35 appropriated to agencies and entities to ensure expenditures
36 achieve the best results for Alabama's opioid crisis.

37 (a) The membership of the commission shall consist
38 of all of the following:

39 (1) The Commissioner of the Department of Mental
40 Health, or his or her designee.

41 (2) The Commissioner of the Department of
42 Corrections, or his or her designee.

43 (3) The Director of the Board of Pardons and
44 Paroles, or his or her designee.

45 (4) The State Health Officer, or his or her
46 designee.

47 (5) The Director of Finance, or his or her designee.

48 (6) An expert in programs and services for opioid
49 treatment and abatement, appointed by the Attorney General.

50 (7) Two experts in programs and services for opioid
51 treatment and abatement, appointed by the Governor.

52 (8) An expert in programs and services for opioid
53 treatment and abatement, appointed by the Lieutenant
54 Governor.



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55 (9) An expert in programs and services for opioid
56 treatment and abatement for veterans, appointed by the
57 Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

58 (10) The Speaker of the House of Representatives, or
59 his or her designee.

60 (11) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate, or his
61 or her designee.

62 (12) The Chair of the Senate Finance and
63 Taxation-General Fund Committee, or his or her designee.

64 (13) The Chair of the House Ways and Means-General
65 Fund Committee, or his or her designee.

66 (14) Two members of the House of Representatives
67 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

68 (15) Two members of the Senate, appointed by the
69 President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

70 (16) The Minority Leader of the House of
71 Representatives, or his or her designee.

72 (17) The Minority Leader of the Senate, or his or
73 her designee.

74 (b) Appointments made pursuant to Act 2023-383,
75 shall continue to be effective until any subsequent
76 appointments are made by the appointing authority.
77 Subsequent or additional appointments made pursuant to this
78 resolution shall be made within 30 days following passage of
79 this resolution.

80 (c) The Oversight Commission on Alabama Opioid
81 Settlement Funds shall be inclusive and reflect the racial,



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82 gender, geographic, urban, rural, and economic diversity of
83 the state.

84 (d) The Chair of the House Ways and Means-General
85 Fund Committee shall serve as chair of the commission. The
86 commission shall meet as soon as practical at a time and
87 place set by the chair. The commission shall meet at the
88 call of the chair following the initial meeting and as
89 investment plans are presented for review but not less than
90 semiannually. Meetings shall be governed in the same manner
91 as the Legislature for all purposes, including notice.

92 (e) The legislative members of the commission shall
93 be entitled to their legislative compensation, per diem, and
94 travel expenses for each day they attend a meeting of the
95 commission in accordance with Section 49 of the Constitution
96 of Alabama of 2022.

97 (f) Other members of the commission may be
98 reimbursed for necessary expenses in attending meetings of
99 the commission according to policies and procedures of their
100 respective appointing authorities.

101 (g) Pursuant to Section 36-14-17.1, Code of Alabama
102 1975, the commission shall provide to the Secretary of State
103 a notice of all meetings, the name of each member's service
104 on the commission, and a copy of its findings and other
105 documents produced throughout the duration of the
106 commission.

107 (h) The amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000)
108 shall be the total amount that may be expended by the
109 commission in any one year.



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110 (i) The commission shall continue in existence until
111 all opioid settlement funds have been appropriated and
112 expended, at which time the commission shall stand
113 dissolved.