

HOUSE BILL No. 2255

By Representative Ballard

2-9

1 AN ACT creating the task force on obesity prevention and management.

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3 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

4 Section 1. (a) There is hereby created the Kansas task force on
5 obesity prevention and management, hereinafter referred to as the “task
6 force,” within the department of health and environment. In addition to
7 any legislative appropriation, the task force may accept and expend grants
8 and private donations from any source, including federal, state, public
9 and private entities, to assist the task force to carry out the task force’s
10 functions.

11 (b) The duties of the task force shall include, but not be limited to,
12 conducting statewide meetings with students in grades four through 12
13 for discussions on obesity-related diseases and conditions including, but
14 not limited to, diabetes, depression, low self-esteem and social
15 discrimination. Following the discussions with students, the task force
16 shall have meetings with school personnel to discuss how to better assist
17 children of school age who may have early indicators of obesity. Such
18 school personnel shall include, but not be limited to, teachers,
19 administrators, counselors, food service staff and school nurses.
20 Following the discussions with school personnel, the task force shall have
21 meetings reaching out to the parents and civic leaders in the communities
22 to discuss how each area could promote early prevention and
23 management of obesity. Discussion shall include what parents and the
24 communities could do to have access to affordable, effective prevention
25 and management services. After all meetings and discussions have
26 occurred, the task force shall establish recommendations for changes to
27 statewide elementary and secondary education curricula to implement
28 comprehensive, coordinated obesity awareness and education programs
29 and for community projects to promote obesity awareness and education
30 programs.

31 (c) The task force shall convene for its first meeting no later than
32 August 1, 2011. The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the task force
33 shall be appointed by the secretary of health and environment. The
34 department of health and environment shall provide such administrative
35 assistance as may be requested by the task force. The task force may
36 adopt such rules of procedure as are necessary to facilitate orderly

1 conduct of its business.

2 (d) The task force shall submit a report, including proposed
3 legislation if necessary, to the governor, the speaker of the house of
4 representatives and the president of the senate, on or before November 1,
5 2012. Such report shall include a comprehensive state plan for
6 implementation of services and programs in the state of Kansas to
7 increase prevention and management of the disease of obesity in children
8 and an estimate of the cost of implementation of such a plan.

9 (e) All departments, boards, agencies, officers and institutions of the
10 state and all subdivisions thereof shall cooperate with the task force in
11 carrying out its purposes pursuant to this act.

12 (f) All members shall be reimbursed for necessary and actual
13 expenses incurred for traveling and subsistence in the performance of
14 serving on the task force.

15 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
16 publication in the statute book.

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