

SENATE BILL NO. 779

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ESLINGER.

3783S.02I

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 27, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to a human trafficking task force.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 27, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto
2 one new section, to be known as section 27.120, to read as
3 follows:

27.120. 1. There is hereby created the "Counter Human
2 Trafficking Task Force" to address the issue of human
3 trafficking in Missouri.

4 2. The task force shall consist of the following
5 members or their designee:

- 6 (1) The attorney general;
- 7 (2) The director of the department of social services;
- 8 (3) The director of the department of public safety;
- 9 (4) The director of the department of mental health;
- 10 (5) The superintendent of the Missouri state highway
11 patrol;
- 12 (6) The director of the office of prosecution services;
- 13 (7) Three members appointed by the governor who shall
14 serve for terms of four years, shall serve until a successor
15 is appointed, and a vacancy in the office of a member shall
16 be filled by appointment for the remainder of the expired
17 term:
 - 18 (a) One member who is a law enforcement officer;

19 (b) One member who is an elected or appointed judge or
20 a prosecuting attorney; and

21 (c) One member representing a counter human
22 trafficking advocacy group;

23 (8) Two members of the house of representatives, with
24 one appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives
25 and one by the minority floor leader of the house of
26 representatives, which shall include:

27 (a) One member who belongs to a committee with
28 responsibility for crime prevention or public safety; and

29 (b) One member who belongs to a committee with
30 responsibility for health or mental health policy;

31 (9) Two members of the senate, with one appointed by
32 the president pro tempore of the senate and one appointed by
33 the minority floor leader of the senate, which shall include:

34 (a) One member who belongs to a committee with
35 responsibility for transportation, infrastructure, and
36 public safety; and

37 (b) One member who belongs to a committee with a
38 responsibility for health and welfare.

39 3. A majority of the members of the task force shall
40 constitute a quorum. The task force shall be chaired by the
41 attorney general or his or her designee. The task force
42 shall hold its first meeting within thirty days of August
43 28, 2024, and hold subsequent meetings quarterly or upon the
44 call of the chair. The members of the task force shall
45 serve without compensation, but shall be entitled to
46 necessary and actual expenses incurred in attending meetings
47 of the task force.

48 4. The task force shall:

49 (1) Collect and distribute information on existing
50 counter human trafficking resources;

51 (2) Research and report to the governor and general
52 assembly on the state of human trafficking in Missouri by
53 October thirty-first of each year; and

54 (3) Provide legislative recommendations to advance
55 counter human trafficking efforts to the governor and
56 general assembly by October thirty-first of each year.

57 5. The office of the attorney general shall provide
58 administrative support to the task force.

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