

Senate Bill No. 258—Senators Brower, Jones, Hammond, Hutchison, Roberson; Atkinson, Cegavske, Ford, Goicoechea, Hardy, Kieckhefer, Manendo, Spearman and Woodhouse

Joint Sponsors: Assemblymen Hickey; Hambrick, Hardy, Munford, Oscarson, Sprinkle, Swank and Wheeler

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to the protection of children; creating the Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children within the Division of Child and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services; requiring the Task Force to perform certain duties; providing for the expiration of the Task Force; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

The Division of Child and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services administers, coordinates and provides child welfare services in this State. (NRS 432B.180) **Section 2** of this bill creates the Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children within the Division. **Section 3** of this bill establishes certain procedures governing the Task Force. **Section 4** of this bill authorizes the Task Force to recommend a policy that includes educating certain persons who are associated with children about the sexual abuse of children, and providing support services to children in this State who may be affected by sexual abuse. **Section 5** of this bill: (1) requires the Task Force to provide to the Governor and the Legislature recommendations, in the form of a report, to reduce the sexual abuse of children in this State; (2) sets a deadline for the submission of the report; (3) requires the Task Force to seek information from certain agencies, organizations and persons in compiling the required recommendations; and (4) requires the Task Force to recommend goals for policy to prevent the sexual abuse of children in this State. **Section 6** of this bill provides for the expiration of the Task Force.

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** Chapter 432B of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act.

**Sec. 2. 1. *The Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children is hereby created within the Division of Child and Family Services.***

**2. *The Task Force consists of 15 members as follows:***



*(a) One member of the Senate and one member of the public, each appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate;*

*(b) One member of the Senate and one member of the public, each appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate;*

*(c) One member of the Assembly and one member of the public, each appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly;*

*(d) One member of the Assembly and one member of the public, each appointed by the Minority Leader of the Assembly;*

*(e) The Administrator of the Division of Child and Family Services or the designee of the Administrator;*

*(f) The Superintendent of Public Instruction or the designee of the Superintendent;*

*(g) The Attorney General or the designee of the Attorney General;*

*(h) A representative of an agency that is involved in the investigation, prosecution and treatment of cases of the sexual abuse of children in this State, appointed by the Administrator of the Division of Child and Family Services;*

*(i) Two representatives of different statewide organizations of professional teachers, each appointed by the head of his or her organization, with the organizations of professional teachers to be chosen by the Superintendent of Public Instruction; and*

*(j) A representative of an organization involved in the prevention of the sexual abuse of children in this State, appointed by the Administrator of the Division of Child and Family Services.*

*3. Each member of the Task Force must be involved actively in one or more aspects of the prevention of the sexual abuse of children and the promotion of child welfare in this State.*

*Sec. 3. 1. The members of the Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children shall, by a majority vote, elect a Chair and a Vice Chair from among their number.*

*2. The members of the Task Force shall meet at the call of the Chair not more than 6 times. The Task Force shall prescribe rules for its management and government.*

*3. A majority of the members of the Task Force constitutes a quorum, and a quorum may exercise all the powers conferred on the Task Force.*

*4. The members of the Task Force serve without compensation.*

*5. Vacancies on the Task Force must be filled in the same manner as original appointments.*

*6. The Administrator of the Division of Child and Family Services shall provide the Task Force with administrative support.*



7. *The Task Force shall comply with the provisions of chapter 241 of NRS.*

**Sec. 4.** *1. The Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children may recommend a policy addressing the sexual abuse of children in this State that may include, without limitation:*

*(a) Age-appropriate curriculum for pupils in prekindergarten through grade 5;*

*(b) Training for school personnel;*

*(c) Providing educational information in school handbooks, pamphlets and other materials, for parents and guardians, including, without limitation:*

*(1) The warning signs of sexual abuse of children; and*

*(2) Assistance, referral or information concerning resources; and*

*(d) The provision of:*

*(1) Counseling and other resources available to any child in this State affected by sexual abuse; and*

*(2) Emotional and educational support for any child in this State who has experienced sexual abuse, to allow the child to succeed in school.*

*2. Any policy recommended pursuant to this section may address, without limitation:*

*(a) Methods to increase awareness in teachers, students and parents of issues regarding the sexual abuse of children, including, without limitation, warning signs that a child might be a victim of sexual abuse;*

*(b) Actions that a child who is the victim of sexual abuse can take to obtain assistance and intervention; and*

*(c) Counseling options available for students affected by sexual abuse.*

**Sec. 5.** *1. The Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children shall recommend to the Governor and the Legislature measures intended to reduce the incidence of the sexual abuse of children in this State. The Task Force may recommend, without limitation, specific legislation and methods to foster cooperation among state agencies and between the State and local governments. The Task Force shall, not later than June 30, 2014, submit a final report of its recommendations to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the Governor and the next regular session of the Nevada Legislature.*

*2. In exercising the duties prescribed in subsection 1, the Task Force shall:*



*(a) Gather information concerning the sexual abuse of children in this State;*

*(b) Receive reports and testimony from persons, State and local governmental entities, community-based organizations and other public and private organizations;*

*(c) Consult with employees of the Division of Child and Family Services, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Education and any other state agency or department as necessary to accomplish the duties of the Task Force; and*

*(d) Recommend goals and policies to prevent the sexual abuse of children in this State.*

**Sec. 6.** The Task Force shall meet not more than 6 times from July 1, 2013, through July 1, 2014.

**Sec. 7.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2013, and expires by limitation on July 1, 2014.

