

1 H.388

2 Introduced by Representatives Haas of Rochester, Andrews of Rutland City,

3 Frank of Underhill and McFaun of Barre Town

4 Referred to Committee on

5 Date:

6 Subject: Veterans' affairs; task force; long-term care service needs; veterans

7 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to create a task force to study

8 long-term care service needs of Vermont veterans.

9 An act relating to the creation of a task force to evaluate long-term care
10 service needs of Vermont veterans

11 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

12 Sec. 1. TASK FORCE TO STUDY LONG-TERM CARE SERVICE NEEDS
13 OF VERMONT VETERANS

14 (a) Creation of task force. There is created a task force to study long-term
15 care service needs of Vermont veterans.

16 (b)(1) Membership. The task force on long-term care service needs for
17 Vermont veterans shall consist of 14 members. Two members of the task force
18 shall be members of the general assembly. The committee on committees of
19 the senate shall appoint one member of the senate; and the speaker of the house
20 shall appoint one member of the house. Twelve (12) members of the task force
21 shall be as follows:

- 1 (A) the veterans service director of the Vermont office of veterans
2 affairs;
- 3 (B) the commissioner of disabilities, aging, and independent living or
4 designee;
- 5 (C) the state long-term care ombudsman;
- 6 (D) the executive director of the Vermont council of developmental
7 and mental health services;
- 8 (E) the executive director of the Vermont Health Care Association;
- 9 (F) the executive director of the Vermont Assembly of Home Health
10 and Hospice Agencies;
- 11 (G) the director of the Military, Family and Community Network of
12 Vermont;
- 13 (H) one representative from the Military Health Project of the
14 Agency of Human Services appointed by the secretary;
- 15 (I) the executive director of the Community of Vermont Elders;
- 16 (J) the executive director of the Vermont Center for Independent
17 Living;
- 18 (K) the administrator of the Vermont Veterans' Home; and
- 19 (L) the director of the White River Junction VA Medical Center.
- 20 (2) The task force, in performing its duties, shall seek the participation
21 of other providers serving veterans.

1 (3) The task force, at its first meeting, shall elect one member as chair or
2 two members as cochairs.

3 (c)(1) Duties. The task force shall:

4 (A) identify the long-term care services available to Vermont
5 veterans;

6 (B) identify existing or anticipated gaps in service or barriers to
7 access;

8 (C) identify opportunities that exist to improve the care, coordination,
9 and financing of long-term care for Vermont veterans; and

10 (D) make recommendations about how to improve the care,
11 coordination, and financing of long-term care for Vermont veterans.

12 (2) For purposes of its study on these issues, the task force shall receive
13 the assistance and staff services of the legislative council and the joint fiscal
14 office.

15 (d) Report. By January 15, 2012, the task force shall report to the house
16 committee on human services, the house committee on general, housing and
17 military affairs, the senate committee on health and welfare, and the senate
18 committee on economic development, housing, and general affairs its findings
19 and any recommendations for legislative action.

20 (e) Number of meetings; term of task force. The task force may meet no
21 more than six times and shall cease to exist on January 31, 2012.

1 (f) Reimbursement. For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the
2 general assembly, legislative members of the task force shall be entitled to
3 compensation and reimbursement for expenses as provided in 2 V.S.A. § 406;
4 and other members of the task force who are not employees of the state of
5 Vermont shall be reimbursed at the per diem rate set in 32 V.S.A. § 1010, plus
6 mileage reimbursement.

7 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

8 This act shall take effect on passage.