

1 AN ACT concerning criminal law.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Prescription Drug Task Force Act.

6 Section 5. Purpose. The General Assembly finds that:

7 (1) Prescription opioid abuse is endemic in this State.

8 (2) Some medical studies have shown that the use of opioid
9 versus non-opioid medication therapy did not result in
10 significantly better pain-related function over the trial
11 periods.

12 (3) While opioid abuse is an endemic public health problem,
13 there are patients in pain who may need opioids for legitimate
14 medical reasons.

15 (4) It has the right to regulate the licensing of health
16 care professionals and has enacted various licensing Acts for
17 that purpose authorizing the Department of Financial and
18 Professional Regulation to license and discipline these health
19 care professionals.

20 (5) A legislative Task Force is necessary to study
21 prescription opioid abuse, and to make recommendations of
22 future legislation to address this issue.

1 Section 10. Prescription Drug Task Force.

2 (a) The Prescription Drug Task Force is created. The Task
3 Force shall be composed of 25 members appointed as follows:

4 (1) one member of the House of Representatives
5 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

6 (2) one member of the House of Representatives
7 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
8 Representatives;

9 (3) one member of the Senate appointed by the President
10 of the Senate;

11 (4) one member of the Senate appointed by the Minority
12 Leader of the Senate;

13 (5) the Secretary of Human Services or his or her
14 designee;

15 (6) one member from each of the following organizations
16 appointed by the Secretary of Human Services from nominees
17 made by the respective organization:

18 (A) a statewide organization representing advanced
19 practice registered nurses;

20 (B) a statewide organization representing
21 hospitals;

22 (C) a statewide organization representing retail
23 merchants;

24 (D) a statewide organization representing
25 dentists;

26 (E) a statewide organization representing

1 physician assistants;

2 (F) a statewide organization representing
3 health-system pharmacists;

4 (G) a statewide organization representing
5 optometrists;

6 (H) a statewide organization representing
7 pharmacists;

8 (I) a statewide organization representing
9 pharmaceutical manufacturers;

10 (7) 2 members who are parents whose children have died
11 from drug overdoses, appointed by the Secretary of Human
12 Services;

13 (8) 2 members who are selected from county sheriffs,
14 municipal police chiefs, and State's Attorneys, appointed
15 by the Attorney General;

16 (9) one member who is a peace officer specializing in
17 the enforcement of laws prohibiting the illegal
18 manufacture, delivery, and possession of controlled
19 substances and methamphetamine, appointed by the Director
20 of State Police;

21 (10) 2 members who are representatives of providers of
22 addiction treatment services, appointed by the Secretary
23 of Human Services;

24 (11) 2 members who are public defenders, appointed by
25 the Attorney General; and

26 (12) 2 members who are physicians licensed to practice

1 medicine in all its branches, including one physician
2 specializing in pain management and one physician
3 specializing in emergency medicine, nominated by a
4 statewide organization representing physicians licensed to
5 practice medicine in all its branches, appointed by the
6 Secretary of Human Services.

7 (b) The Task Force shall choose its chairperson from among
8 its members and any other officers it deems appropriate.

9 (c) The Task Force shall initially meet within 30 days
10 after the effective date of this Act. The members of the Task
11 Force shall receive no compensation for their services as
12 members of the Task Force but may be reimbursed for expenses
13 from appropriations made by law.

14 (d) The Task Force may seek the assistance of the
15 Departments of Financial and Professional Regulation and
16 Public Health in performing its duties.

17 (e) The Task Force shall:

18 (1) study prescription opioid abuse in this State;

19 (2) study the over-prescription of opioids such as
20 Hydrocodone and Oxycodone; and

21 (3) recommend any legislation, including amendments to
22 the Illinois Controlled Substances Act, that would have the
23 effect of reducing opioid addiction and abuse.

24 (f) The Task Force shall focus its efforts in a manner that
25 best utilizes the unique skills and perspectives of the experts
26 on the Task Force.

1 (g) The Task Force shall submit a report of its
2 recommendations to the General Assembly on or before December
3 31, 2019. The report to the General Assembly shall be filed
4 with the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the
5 Secretary of the Senate in electronic form only, in the manner
6 that the Clerk and the Secretary shall direct.

7 (h) The Department of Human Services shall provide
8 administrative and other support to the Task Force.

9 (i) This Act is repealed on January 1, 2021.

10 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
11 becoming law.