

1 AN ACT concerning insurance.

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

4 Section 5. The Children's Health Insurance Program Act is
5 amended by adding Section 65 as follows:

6 (215 ILCS 106/65 new)

7 Sec. 65. Children's Health Insurance Task Force.

8 (a) To ensure proper oversight of programs that have been
9 created to provide access to quality, affordable health care
10 for children residing in Illinois, there is hereby established
11 the bipartisan Children's Health Insurance Task Force.

12 (b) The Task Force shall consist of 12 voting members, as
13 follows: 3 members of the Senate appointed by the President of
14 the Senate, 3 members of the Senate appointed by the Senate
15 Minority Leader, 3 members of the House of Representatives
16 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and 3
17 members of the House of Representatives appointed by the House
18 Minority Leader. All actions of the Task Force require the
19 affirmative vote of at least 7 voting members.

20 Voting members appointed to the Task Force shall elect from
21 among themselves 2 co-chairs, with the co-chairs representing
22 different political parties.

23 Members appointed by the legislative leaders shall be
24 appointed for the duration of the Task Force. In the event of a
25 vacancy, the appointment to fill the vacancy shall be made by
26 the same legislative leader who made the original appointment.

27 The following persons shall serve as ex officio, non-voting
28 members of the Task Force: The Director of the Department of
29 Healthcare and Family Services, the Secretary of the Department
30 of Human Services, and the Director of the Division of
31 Insurance of the Department of Financial and Professional
32 Regulation.

1 The Task Force shall begin to conduct business upon the
2 appointment of a majority of the voting members. Members shall
3 serve without compensation.

4 (c) The Task Force shall gather information and make
5 recommendations relating to access to quality, affordable
6 health insurance for children in Illinois. The Task Force shall
7 examine the cost effectiveness of current programs and assess
8 whether programs are meeting goals established for the
9 programs.

10 (d) The Task Force shall conduct public hearings in
11 locations throughout the State at least every other month
12 during the first year after the appointment of a majority of
13 its voting members, and as determined by a majority of its
14 voting members in each year thereafter.

15 Comment and testimony at public hearings is to be sought
16 from those served by State programs providing health insurance
17 to children, employers located in Illinois, health care finance
18 experts, and advocates for those receiving or in need of health
19 insurance.

20 (e) The Task Force shall serve as an official forum for
21 discussions concerning the implementation and oversight of
22 current health insurance programs, including discussion on
23 administrative rules needed to administer the programs.

24 (f) The Task Force shall submit an annual report to the
25 General Assembly, with the first report due on December 31,
26 2006, and every December 31 thereafter.

27 (g) The Department of Healthcare and Family Services shall
28 provide for the administrative expenses of the Task Force.

29 (h) The Task Force is abolished and this Section is
30 repealed on January 1, 2012.

31 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
32 becoming law.