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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 4151

03/10/2022 Authored by Feist, Keeler, Hollins, Berg, Mariani and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to juvenile justice; establishing Task Force on a Coordinated Approach
1.3 to Juvenile Wellness and Justice; requiring a report; appropriating money.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. TASK FORCE ON A COORDINATED APPROACH TO JUVENILE
1.6 WELLNESS AND JUSTICE.

1.7 Subdivision 1. Establishment. The Task Force on a Coordinated Approach to Juvenile
1.8 Wellness and Justice is established to review the juvenile justice system in Minnesota,
1.9 examine approaches taken in other jurisdictions, and make policy and funding
1.10 recommendations to the legislature.

1.11 Subd. 2. Membership. (a) The task force consists of the following members:

1.12 (1) the chief justice or a designee;

1.13 (2) the state public defender or a designee;

1.14 (3) a county attorney appointed by the Minnesota County Attorneys Association;

1.15 (4) the warden of the Minnesota correctional facility for juveniles in Red Wing or a
1.16 designee;

1.17 (5) a representative from Indian health services or a Tribal Council appointed by the
1.18 Indian Affairs Council;

1.19 (6) a probation agent who supervises juveniles appointed by the Minnesota Association
1.20 of Community Correction Act Counties;

2.1 (7) a peace officer, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 626.84, subdivision 1,  
2.2 paragraph (c), appointed by the governor from a list of three candidates submitted jointly  
2.3 by the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association, the Minnesota Sheriffs' Association, and  
2.4 the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association;

2.5 (8) a high school principal appointed by the governor from a list of two candidates  
2.6 submitted jointly by the commissioner of education and the executive director of Education  
2.7 Minnesota;

2.8 (9) a representative from a county social services agency that has responsibility for  
2.9 public child welfare and child protection services, appointed by the governor;

2.10 (10) an individual who was the victim of an offense committed by a juvenile, appointed  
2.11 by the governor;

2.12 (11) a representative from a community-driven nonprofit law firm that represents juveniles  
2.13 in delinquency matters, appointed by the governor; and

2.14 (12) ten youths under age 25 with interest or experience in the juvenile justice, juvenile  
2.15 protection, and foster systems.

2.16 (b) To the extent possible, the demographics of the public members identified in  
2.17 paragraph (a), clause (12), must be inclusive and represent the ethnic and racial diversity  
2.18 of the state, including gender and sexual orientation, immigrant status, and religious and  
2.19 linguistic background.

2.20 (c) Appointments must be made no later than September 15, 2022.

2.21 (d) Public members identified in paragraph (a), clause (12), are eligible for compensation  
2.22 and expense reimbursement consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059, subdivision  
2.23 3. All other members shall serve without compensation.

2.24 (e) Members of the task force serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority or until  
2.25 the task force expires. Vacancies shall be filled by the appointing authority consistent with  
2.26 the qualifications of the vacating member required by this subdivision.

2.27 Subd. 3. **Officers; meetings.** (a) At its first meeting, the members of the task force shall  
2.28 elect cochairs of the task force, at least one of whom must be a public member identified  
2.29 in paragraph (a), clause (12). The task force may elect other officers as necessary.

2.30 (b) The executive director of the Office of Justice Programs shall convene the first  
2.31 meeting of the task force no later than October 15, 2022, and shall provide meeting space

3.1 and administrative assistance through the Office of Justice Programs as necessary for the  
3.2 task force to conduct its work.

3.3 (c) The task force shall meet at least monthly or upon the call of a cochair. The task  
3.4 force shall meet sufficiently enough to accomplish the tasks identified in this section.

3.5 Meetings of the task force are subject to Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13D.

3.6 Subd. 4. **Duties.** (a) The task force shall, at a minimum:

3.7 (1) review Minnesota's juvenile justice system;

3.8 (2) identify areas of overlap and conflict between Minnesota's juvenile justice and  
3.9 protection systems, including areas of collaboration and coordination, provision of duplicated  
3.10 services, and any inconsistent expectations placed on juveniles;

3.11 (3) review alternative approaches to juvenile justice in Minnesota counties, Tribal  
3.12 communities, and other states or jurisdictions;

3.13 (4) identify social, emotional, and developmental factors that contribute to delinquent  
3.14 acts by juveniles;

3.15 (5) identify approaches to juvenile justice that involve the affected juvenile and address  
3.16 any underlying factors that contribute to delinquent acts by juveniles;

3.17 (6) identify approaches to juvenile justice that hold juvenile offenders accountable to  
3.18 victims and the community in ways that seek to strengthen the juvenile's connection to the  
3.19 community; and

3.20 (7) make recommendations for community and legislative action to address juvenile  
3.21 justice in Minnesota.

3.22 (b) At its discretion, the task force may examine other related issues consistent with this  
3.23 section.

3.24 Subd. 5. **Report.** By January 15, 2024, the task force shall submit a report to the chairs  
3.25 and ranking minority members of the house of representatives and senate committees and  
3.26 divisions with jurisdiction over public safety finance and policy, judiciary finance and  
3.27 policy, human services finance and policy, and education finance and policy.

3.28 Subd. 6. **Expiration.** The task force expires the day after submitting its final report under  
3.29 subdivision 5.

3.30 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2022.

4.1       Sec. 2. **TASK FORCE ON A COORDINATED APPROACH TO JUVENILE**  
4.2 **WELLNESS AND JUSTICE; APPROPRIATION.**

4.3       \$150,000 in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner  
4.4 of public safety to implement the Task Force on a Coordinated Approach to Juvenile Wellness  
4.5 and Justice. The base for this appropriation is \$75,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$0 in fiscal  
4.6 year 2025 and beyond.