

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 779

AN ACT

To amend chapter 27, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to a human trafficking task force.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 27, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 27.120, to read as follows:

27.120. 1. There is hereby created the "Counter Human Trafficking Task Force" to address the issue of human trafficking in Missouri.

2. The task force shall consist of the following members or their designee:

(1) The attorney general;

(2) The director of the department of social services;

(3) The director of the department of public safety;

(4) The director of the department of mental health;

(5) The superintendent of the Missouri state highway patrol;

(6) The director of the office of prosecution services;

(7) Two members appointed by the governor who shall serve for terms of four years, shall serve until a successor is appointed, and a vacancy in the office of a member shall be filled by appointment for the remainder of the expired term:

(a) One member who is a law enforcement officer; and

(b) One member representing a counter human trafficking advocacy group;

(8) Two members of the house of representatives, with one appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives

and one by the minority floor leader of the house of representatives, which shall include:

(a) One member who belongs to a committee with responsibility for crime prevention or public safety; and

(b) One member who belongs to a committee with responsibility for health or mental health policy;

(9) Two members of the senate, with one appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate and one appointed by the minority floor leader of the senate, which shall include:

(a) One member who belongs to a committee with responsibility for transportation, infrastructure, and public safety; and

(b) One member who belongs to a committee with a responsibility for health and welfare.

(10) One judge appointed by the chief justice of the Missouri supreme court.

3. A majority of the members of the task force shall constitute a quorum. The task force shall be chaired by the attorney general or his or her designee. The task force shall hold its first meeting within thirty days of August 28, 2024, and hold subsequent meetings quarterly or upon the call of the chair. The members of the task force shall serve without compensation, but shall be entitled to necessary and actual expenses incurred in attending meetings of the task force.

4. The task force shall:

(1) Collect and distribute information on existing counter human trafficking resources;

(2) Research and report to the governor and general assembly on the state of human trafficking in Missouri by October thirty-first of each year; and

(3) Provide legislative recommendations to advance counter human trafficking efforts to the governor and general assembly by October thirty-first of each year.

5. The office of the attorney general shall provide administrative support to the task force.