

1 HJR137
2 199192-2
3 By Representatives Rafferty, McCampbell, Daniels, Ledbetter,
4 Marques, Baker, Clouse, Lawrence, Hollis, Gray, Dismukes,
5 Isbell, Alexander, Jackson, Sorrells, Jones (S), Hatcher,
6 Warren, Chestnut, Forte, Clarke, England, Drummond, Simpson,
7 Stringer, Pringle, Morris, Oliver, Lee, Moore (M), Drake,
8 Nordgren, Scott, South, Weaver, Sullivan, Kitchens and Moore
9 (P)
10 RFD: Rules
11 First Read: 18-APR-19

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8 ESTABLISHING THE TASK FORCE ON VETERANS' SUICIDE.

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10 WHEREAS, the Alabama Legislature is concerned with
11 the health, safety, and welfare of all returning veterans of
12 this country's armed forces to Alabama; and

13 WHEREAS, the rate of mental health problems and
14 suicides for members of this country's armed forces remains
15 starttlingly high; now therefore,

16 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
17 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the Task
18 Force on Veterans' Suicide to investigate the causes of and
19 prevention of suicides among returning Alabama veterans of the
20 United States Military and to make recommendations to the
21 Legislature to address this important issue.

22 (a) The task force shall consist of nine members as
23 follows:

24 (1) One representative from the Department of
25 Veterans' Affairs, chosen by the Commissioner of Veterans'
26 Affairs, and this member shall act as chair.

1 (2) One member appointed by the Speaker of the House
2 of Representatives.

3 (3) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of
4 the House of Representatives.

5 (4) One member appointed by the President of the
6 Senate.

7 (5) One member appointed by the Senate Minority
8 leader.

9 (6) One representative from the Department of Mental
10 Health, selected by the Commissioner of the Department of
11 Mental Health.

12 (7) One representative from the Department of Public
13 Health, selected by the State Health Officer.

14 (8) One representative of the Department of Human
15 Resources, selected by the Commissioner of the Department of
16 Human Resources.

17 (9) One member appointed by the Governor.

18 (b) All appointing authorities shall coordinate
19 their appointments so that diversity of gender, race, and
20 geographical areas is reflective of the makeup of this state.

21 (c) The members of the task force shall serve with
22 no compensation other than travel reimbursement to be paid by
23 the appointing authority according to state law or existing
24 policies or rules.

25 (d) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall
26 provide administrative and other support to the task force.

1 (e) The Alabama Task Force on Veterans' Suicide
2 shall present a report of its findings, which shall include
3 its recommendations for legislation, if any, to the
4 Legislature on or before two years from the enactment of this
5 resolution.

6 (f) The task force shall be dissolved after the
7 submission of its report to the Alabama House of
8 Representatives and Senate.