HOUSE BILL No. 2664

By Committee on Health and Human Services

AN ACT establishing a task force on social work mobility and workforce development; membership and scope of study; submission of reports and recommendations.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) There is hereby established the social work mobility and workforce development task force. The task force shall consist of 15 members appointed as follows:

1. One member appointed by the secretary for children and families who shall represent the Kansas department for children and families;
2. One member appointed by the secretary of health and environment who shall represent the department of health and environment;
3. One member appointed by the secretary for aging and disability services who shall represent the Kansas department for aging and disability services;
4. One member appointed by the commissioner of education who shall represent the state department of education;
5. One member of the committee on health and human services of the house of representatives appointed by the chairperson of the committee;
6. One member of the committee on public health and welfare of the senate appointed by the chairperson of the committee;
7. One member appointed by the behavioral sciences regulatory board who shall represent the behavioral sciences regulatory board;
8. One faculty member of an accredited Kansas social work program appointed by the state board of regents;
9. Four representatives from major agencies or organizations that employ licensed social workers appointed by the governor; and
10. Three licensed social workers, one of whom shall be a baccalaureate social worker, one of whom shall be a master's social worker and one of whom shall be a clinical social worker appointed from different service delivery systems for social work by the behavioral services regulatory board.

(b) Members of the task force shall be appointed on or before July 1, 2018. The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the task force shall be appointed by the behavioral sciences regulatory board from among the members of the task force. The first meeting of the task force shall be

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called by the chairperson on or before August 1, 2018. Any vacancy in the
task force shall be filled by appointment in the same manner prescribed by
this section for the original appointment. The task force shall meet on the
call of the chairperson. A quorum of the task force shall be eight members.
All actions of the task force shall be by motion adopted by a majority of
those members present when there is a quorum.

(c) Members of the task force attending a meeting of the task force
authorized by the chairperson and who are not otherwise reimbursed for
attending the meetings of the task force shall be paid amounts provided in
K.S.A. 75-3223(e), and amendments thereto, not to exceed four meetings
in any year.

(d) Staff of the office of revisor of statutes, the legislative research
department and the division of legislative administrative services shall
provide assistance as may be requested by the task force.

(e) (1) The purpose of the task force is to assess the current social
work workforce capacity to meet the needs of Kansas communities, to
determine trends in employment and to inform relevant policy efforts
across Kansas.

(2) The task force shall evaluate regulatory licensing requirements
and mobility to practice in neighboring states, both physically and
electronically, in order to enable care continuity regardless of client
location.

(3) The task force shall examine the availability of all licensure levels
of social work in urban and rural areas of Kansas and the availability of
social work supervision at the licensed specialist clinical social work level.

(f) Upon request of the task force:

(1) The behavioral sciences regulatory board shall provide
information and data on the number of active licensed social workers,
inactive licensees, the numbers of licenses based on geographical locations
and trends in distribution of licensed social workers in the state over the
last 10 years;

(2) the secretary of labor shall assist the task force by analyzing
available sources of data to provide a profile of current social work work
force and future trends; and

(3) the secretary for children and families, the secretary of health and
environment, the secretary for aging and disabilities service and the
department of education shall provide data for current social worker
workforce needs and trends within their respective agencies.

(g) The task force shall submit a preliminary report on the findings
and recommendations of the task force to the president of the senate, the
speaker of the house of representatives, the members of the committee on
health and human services of the house of representatives and the
members of the committee on public health and welfare of the senate on or
before January 14, 2019, and a final report of findings and recommendations on or before January 13, 2020.

(h) The provisions of this shall expire on June 30, 2020.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the Kansas register.