

1 SJR104
2 170430-1
3 By Senator Orr
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 03-JUN-15

2
3
4
5
6
7
8 ESTABLISHING THE ALABAMA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL
9 REFORM TASK FORCE.
10

11 WHEREAS, state government regulation, control,
12 oversight, and participation regarding the wholesale,
13 distribution and retail of alcoholic beverages varies from
14 state to state; and

15 WHEREAS, the Alabama Legislature desires to take
16 proactive steps to ensure that the state utilizes the most
17 cost effective regulatory and oversight measures with regard
18 to the production, sale, and consumption of alcoholic
19 beverages, while balancing the public policy and safety
20 considerations regarding the same; and

21 WHEREAS, the Alabama Legislature desires to research
22 and analyze the laws and provisions of this state, as well as
23 other states involving the production, sale, and consumption
24 of alcoholic beverages; and

25 WHEREAS, the Alabama Legislature desires to
26 implement reasonable measures to transition out of the state's

1 ownership and participation in the retail sales of alcoholic
2 beverages; now therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is established the
5 Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Reform Task Force.

6 (a) The Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Reform
7 Task Force (ABC Reform Task Force) shall be composed of the
8 following members:

9 (1) The Speaker of the House of Representatives or
10 his or her designee.

11 (2) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate or his
12 or her designee.

13 (3) The Chair of the Senate Tourism Committee or his
14 or her designee.

15 (4) The Chair of the House Economic Development and
16 Tourism Committee or his or her designee.

17 (5) The Chair of the Senate Finance and Taxation,
18 General Fund Committee, or his or her designee.

19 (6) The Chair of the House Ways and Means General
20 Fund Committee, or his or her designee.

21 (7) One member of the Senate and one member of the
22 House of Representatives, who shall be members of the minority
23 party, to be selected by the chair of the task force.

24 (8) A representative of the Alabama Alcoholic
25 Beverage Control Board (ABC) appointed by the board.

1 (b) The Alabama Law Institute shall serve as the
2 primary resource for researching, compiling information, and
3 drafting recommendations from the task force to the
4 Legislature, including any recommended changes to the Code of
5 Alabama. The research will include the examination of other
6 state's alcoholic beverage laws and shall include input and
7 briefings from all sectors of the alcoholic beverage industry.

8 (c) The goals of the task force are as follows:

9 (1) To examine the laws and regulations of this
10 state and other states related to the manufacture,
11 distribution, and sale of alcoholic beverages, and to
12 determine if more cost-effective measures and reforms can be
13 reasonably implemented by the Alabama Legislature to reduce
14 the cost and burden of Alabama alcoholic beverage laws and
15 regulations on the taxpayers of the state, while giving due
16 consideration to the stabilization and support of the free
17 enterprises currently existing and operating in the state and
18 balancing the interests of the public morals and safety.

19 (2) To develop a transition plan for the
20 privatization of state-owned ABC stores engaged in the retail
21 sale of alcoholic beverages.

22 (d) The task force shall be charged with the
23 following duties and responsibilities:

24 (1) Upon adjournment of the 2015 Regular Legislative
25 Session, the task force shall schedule its first meeting which
26 shall be held no less than three months after adjournment. At

1 the first meeting the task force shall select a chair and a
2 vice-chair. The task force shall meet at the call of the chair.

3 (2) The task force shall research and analyze
4 potential cost-saving and government-streamlining measures
5 that would save Alabama taxpayer funds related to government
6 regulation and oversight of the manufacture, distribution, and
7 sale of alcoholic beverages. The research and analysis shall
8 include various measures to be implemented by the Legislature
9 regarding the privatization of state-owned ABC stores. The
10 task force shall also receive input from individuals and
11 businesses involved in the manufacturing, distribution, and
12 sale of alcoholic beverage products.

13 (3) Based on the data and analysis of this state and
14 other state's laws and regulations, the task force shall draft
15 a report that includes recommendations of potential
16 cost-saving and government-streamlining measures and reforms
17 related to the manufacture, distribution, and sale of
18 alcoholic beverages. The report shall also include
19 recommendations for a transition plan for the privatization of
20 state-owned ABC stores engaged in the retail sale of alcoholic
21 beverages by no later than December 31, 2017.

22 (4) The task force shall report its findings,
23 conclusions, and recommendations for proposed legislation to
24 the Legislature no later than the 15th day of the 2016 Regular
25 Session, where upon it shall stand dissolved and discharged of
26 any further duties.

1 (e) Upon request of the chair of the task force, the
2 Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of
3 Representatives shall provide necessary clerical assistance
4 for the work of the commission. Each legislative member of the
5 commission shall be entitled to his or her regular legislative
6 compensation, per diem, and travel expenses for each day he or
7 she attends a meeting of the commission in accordance with
8 Amendment 871 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. These
9 payments shall be paid out of any funds appropriated to the
10 use of the Legislature.