

HJR204 INTRODUCED



1 1RTOLZ-1

2 By Representatives Reynolds, Pringle, Lee, Starnes, Paschal,
3 Shedd, Estes, Moore (P), Rigsby, Underwood, Bedsole, Lamb,
4 South, Almond, Lipscomb, Sells, Baker, Crawford

5 RFD: RULES

6 First Read: 17-May-23

7 2023 Regular Session



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4 HJR____ CREATING THE OVERSIGHT COMMISSION ON ALABAMA OPIOID
5 SETTLEMENT FUNDS.

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7 WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has reached settlement
8 agreements with several parties that will provide millions
9 of dollars to the state for an undetermined period of years
10 for the abatement of the opioid crisis; and

11 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that priorities
12 for the investment of opioid settlement funds should include
13 programs and services with evidence-based results in the
14 treatment and prevention of opioid use and addiction; and

15 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that judicious
16 investment of the opioid settlement funds on behalf of
17 Alabama taxpayers and those impacted by the opioid crisis is
18 critical and requires a collaborative effort between the
19 Legislature, the Executive Branch, experts, and
20 stakeholders; now therefore,

21 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
22 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the
23 Oversight Commission on Alabama Opioid Settlement Funds to
24 develop a statewide plan for the investment and use of
25 opioid settlement funds and review the expenditure of funds
26 appropriated to agencies and entities to ensure expenditures
27 achieve the best results for Alabama's opioid crisis.



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28 (a) The membership of the commission shall consist
29 of all of the following:

30 (1) The Commissioner of the Department of Mental
31 Health, or his or her designee.

32 (2) The Director of the Board of Pardons and
33 Paroles, or his or her designee.

36 (4) The Director of Finance, or his or her designee.

37 (5) An expert in programs and services for opioid
38 treatment and abatement, appointed by the Attorney General.

39 (6) An expert in programs and services for opioid
40 treatment and abatement, appointed by the Governor.

41 (7) An expert in programs and services for opioid
42 treatment and abatement, appointed by the Lieutenant
43 Governor.

44 (8) An expert in programs and services for opioid
45 treatment and abatement for veterans, appointed by the
46 Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

47 (9) The Speaker of the House of Representatives, or
48 his or her designee.

51 (11) The Chair of the Senate Finance and

52 Taxation-General Fund Committee, or his or her designee.

53 (12) The Chair of the House Ways and Means-General
54 Fund Committee, or his or her designee



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55 (13) Two members of the House of Representatives
56 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

57 (14) Two members of the Senate, appointed by the
58 President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

59 (b) The Oversight Commission on Alabama Opioid
60 Settlement Funds shall be inclusive and reflect the racial,
61 gender, geographic, urban, rural, and economic diversity of
62 the state.

63 (c) The Chair of the House Ways and Means-General
64 Fund Committee shall serve as chair of the commission. The
65 commission shall meet as soon as practical at a time and
66 place set by the chair. The commission shall meet at the
67 call of the chair following the initial meeting and as
68 investment plans are presented for review but not less than
69 semiannually. Notice of the meetings of the commission shall
70 be provided in a manner consistent with the rules of the
71 Legislature.

72 (d) The legislative members of the commission shall
73 be entitled to their legislative compensation, per diem, and
74 travel expenses for each day they attend a meeting of the
75 commission in accordance with Section 49 of the Constitution
76 of Alabama of 2022.

77 (e) Other members of the commission may be
78 reimbursed for necessary expenses in attending meetings of
79 the commission according to policies and procedures of their
80 respective appointing authorities.

81 (f) Pursuant to Section 36-14-17.1, Code of Alabama
82 1975, the commission shall provide to the Secretary of State

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83 a notice of all meetings, the name of each member's service
84 on the commission, and a copy of its findings and other
85 documents produced throughout the duration of the
86 commission.

87 (g) The amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000)
88 shall be the total amount that may be expended by the
89 commission in any one year.

90 (h) The commission shall continue in existence until
91 all opioid settlement funds have been appropriated and
92 expended, at which time the commission shall stand
93 dissolved.