

SJR80 INTRODUCED



1 SJR80
2 EJZB19C-1
3 By Senator Stewart
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 24-Apr-25



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4 SJR___ ESTABLISHING THE ALABAMA STATEWIDE REENTRY TASK
5 FORCE.
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7 WHEREAS, Act 2021-478 of the 2021 Regular Session
8 created the Study Commission on Interagency Cooperation and
9 Collaboration on the Rehabilitation and Reintegration of
10 Formerly Incarcerated Individuals, also known as Reentry
11 Alabama; and

12 WHEREAS, Reentry Alabama was extended into the 2025
13 fiscal year to continue its pressing work to find
14 efficiencies and best practices in statewide reentry
15 systems; and

16 WHEREAS, the members of Reentry Alabama have been
17 successful in researching and implementing strategies to
18 decrease Alabama's recidivism rate, which is a key factor in
19 fighting crime; and

20 WHEREAS, the commission's work will continue serving
21 a critical role in the future of public safety in the State
22 of Alabama; and

23 WHEREAS, transitioning the Study Commission on
24 Interagency Cooperation and Collaboration on the
25 Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Formerly Incarcerated
26 Individuals into a statewide task force, known as the
27 Alabama Statewide Reentry Task Force, will ensure further
28 cooperation among state agencies and stakeholders to reach



SJR80 INTRODUCED

29 the state's goal of cutting recidivism in half by 2030; now
30 therefore,

31 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
32 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the Alabama
33 Statewide Reentry Task Force to build upon the work of the
34 Reentry Alabama Commission as aligned with the mission of
35 Alabama's Reentry 2030 Initiative, continuing the work
36 toward reducing recidivism and ensuring efficient and
37 cost-effective state operations.

38 (a) The membership of the task force shall consist of
39 all of the following:

40 (1) One member of the House of Representatives,
41 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

42 (2) One member of the House of Representatives,
43 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
44 Representatives.

45 (3) One member of the Senate, appointed by the
46 President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

47 (4) One member of the Senate, appointed by the
48 Minority Leader of the Senate.

49 (5) The Director of Pardons and Paroles, or his or
50 her designee.

51 (6) The Commissioner of the Department of
52 Corrections, or his or her designee.

53 (7) The Commissioner of the Department of Mental
54 Health, or his or her designee.

55 (8) The Commissioner of the Department of Human
56 Resources, or his or her designee.



SJR80 INTRODUCED

57 (9) The Commissioner of the Alabama Medicaid Agency,
58 or his or her designee.

59 (10) The Chancellor of the Alabama Community College
60 System, or his or her designee.

61 (11) The President of Ingram State Community College,
62 or his or her designee.

63 (12) The Secretary of the Alabama State Law
64 Enforcement Agency, or his or her designee.

65 (13) The Secretary of the Department of Workforce, or
66 his or her designee.

67 (14) The Commissioner of the Alabama Department of
68 Veterans Affairs, or his or her designee.

69 (15) The Executive Director of the Office of
70 Prosecution Services, or his or her designee.

71 (16) The Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court,
72 or his or her designee.

73 (17) One member representing city or county
74 governments, appointed by the chair.

75 (18) One member representing nonprofit agencies that
76 provide services to people returning home from
77 incarceration, appointed by the chair.

78 (19) One member who has experience living within the
79 criminal justice system, appointed by the chair.

80 (b) The appointing authorities shall coordinate their
81 appointments to assure task force membership is inclusive
82 and reflects the racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural,
83 and economic diversity of the state.



SJR80 INTRODUCED

(c) The task force shall build upon and continue the work of the Reentry Alabama Commission and work toward reducing recidivism and ensuring efficient and cost-effective state operations, with particular attention to the following duties:

(1) Developing and presenting a strategic plan to make communities safer by reducing recidivism and victimization and assisting individuals who return from prison to become productive citizens and lowering the direct and collateral costs of incarceration.

(2) Identifying, implementing, and promoting evidence-based research, policies, strategies, and programming to support successful reentry and reintegration.

(3) Promoting partnerships and collaboration among state agencies and with local governments and organizations to effectively and cost-efficiently advance reentry and eliminate duplication of services.

(4) Developing strategies to expand access to educational programs and support programs upon reentry.

(5) Developing strategies to assure access to health care coverage and behavioral health services upon reentry.

(6) Identifying and addressing unwarranted barriers to successful reentry.

(7) Pursuing partnerships with employers, agencies, and business leaders to create a pipeline for job placement that strengthens the state's workforce participation rate.

(8) Advising the Legislature and the Governor on issues relating to reentry and reintegration of offenders.



SJR80 INTRODUCED

112 (9) Creating and consulting with advisory groups or
113 working groups comprised of nonmembers.

114 (10) Producing an annual progress report by December
115 1 each year on progress toward the strategic plan. The
116 annual progress report may contain additional objectives,
117 strategies, and recommendations to improve reentry.

118 (d) (1) The Director of Pardons and Paroles shall
119 serve as the chair of the task force. The first meeting of
120 the task force shall be held at the call of the chair no
121 later than 30 days after enactment of this resolution. The
122 task force may then meet at least quarterly to track
123 progress and conduct business, with the date, time, and
124 location of the meeting to be designated by the chair or his
125 or her designee.

126 (2) The Legislative Services Agency, the Clerk of the
127 House of Representatives, and the Secretary of the Senate
128 shall provide administrative and other assistance for the
129 work of the task force as necessary.

130 (e) (1) The legislative members of the task force
131 shall be entitled to their legislative compensation, per
132 diem, and travel expenses for each day they attend a meeting
133 of the task force in accordance with Section 49 of the
134 Constitution of Alabama of 2022.

135 (2) The nonlegislative members of the task force
136 shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for
137 necessary expenses in attending meetings of the task force
138 pursuant to the policies of their respective appointing
139 authorities.



SJR80 INTRODUCED

140 (f) Expenses incurred by the task force before or
141 after the enactment of this resolution shall be paid from
142 funds appropriated to the Legislature, not to exceed a total
143 of five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

144 (g) The task force shall prepare and submit a report
145 of its findings, conclusions, and recommendations for
146 proposed legislation to the Legislature not later than the
147 tenth legislative day of the 2030 Regular Session, at which
148 point the task force shall stand dissolved and discharged of
149 any further duties and liabilities.

150 (h) Pursuant to Section 36-14-17.1, Code of Alabama
151 1975, the task force shall provide notice of all meetings,
152 the name of each member serving on the task force, and a
153 copy of its final report and any other documents produced by
154 the task force throughout its duration to the Secretary of
155 State.

156 (i) Each appointing authority named in this
157 resolution shall be provided a copy of this resolution upon
158 its passage.