

1 SJR8  
2 171915-1  
3 By Senator Ward  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 10-SEP-15

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8           CREATING THE ALABAMA BLUE RIBBON BIPARTISAN JUVENILE  
9 JUSTICE REFORM TASK FORCE.

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11           WHEREAS, Act 2015-276 of the 2015 Regular Session  
12 (SJR43) created the Alabama Prison Task Force to study and  
13 recommend legislative solutions for a broad range of issues  
14 related to prison inmate over population, however the scope of  
15 the Prison Task Force does not include a study of issues  
16 specifically relating to juvenile justice reform; now  
17 therefore,

18           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
19 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the Alabama  
20 Blue Ribbon Bipartisan Juvenile Justice Reform Task Force to  
21 be comprised of the following members:

22           (1) The Chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary.

23           (2) Two members of the Senate appointed by the Chair  
24 of the Senate Committee on Judiciary.

25           (3) Two nonlegislative members appointed by the  
26 Chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary.

1 (4) The Chair of the House Judiciary Committee.

2 (5) Two members of the House of Representatives  
3 appointed by the Chair of the House Judiciary Committee.

4 (6) Two nonlegislative members appointed by the  
5 Chair of the House Committee on Judiciary.

6 The task force membership shall be inclusive and  
7 shall reflect the racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural,  
8 and economic diversity of the state.

9 The Chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary shall  
10 call the first meeting of the task force. At the first  
11 meeting, the members shall select a chair to preside over  
12 meetings of the task force, and a vice chair to serve in the  
13 absence of the chair. Thereafter the task force shall meet  
14 upon the call of the chair, or by a majority vote of the  
15 membership of the task force.

16 The task force shall study and identify causes and  
17 potential legislative solutions relating to the incarceration  
18 of juveniles in this state.

19 The task force shall study a broad range of issues  
20 related to juvenile incarceration including, but not limited  
21 to: Juvenile court procedures and sentencing; data on reported  
22 crimes and arrests; problem-solving suggestions and policies  
23 of the courts; felony and parole policies; juvenile admissions  
24 and length of stay; community center programs; recidivism  
25 rates; and alternative drug court sentencing.

1           The task force shall report its findings,  
2 conclusions, and recommendations for proposed legislation to  
3 the Permanent Joint Legislative Prison Committee no later than  
4 the 15th day of the 2016 Regular Session, where upon it shall  
5 stand dissolved and discharged of any further duties.

6           Each nonlegislative member of the task force may be  
7 reimbursed for expenses related to attending meetings  
8 consistent with the policies of the various appointing  
9 authorities.

10           Upon the request of the chair, the Secretary of the  
11 Senate and Clerk of the House of Representatives shall provide  
12 necessary clerical assistance for the work of the task force.  
13 Each legislative member of the task force shall be entitled to  
14 his or her regular legislative compensation, per diem, and  
15 travel expenses for each day he or she attends a meeting of  
16 the task force in accordance with Amendment 871 of the  
17 Constitution of Alabama of 1901. These payments shall be paid  
18 out of any funds appropriated to the use of the Legislature by  
19 means of warrants drawn by the state Comptroller on the State  
20 Treasury.