

## 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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HJR\_\_\_ CREATING THE OVERSIGHT COMMISSION ON ALABAMA OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS.

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

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

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

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the Oversight Commission on Alabama Opioid Settlement Funds to develop a statewide plan for the investment and use of opioid settlement funds and review the expenditure of funds appropriated to agencies and entities to ensure expenditures 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.

34 (3) The State Health Officer, or his or her  
35 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.

49 (10) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate, or his  
50 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.