

1 HJR110
2 182711-5
3 By Representatives Farley, Whorton (I), Rowe, Standridge,
4 Treadaway, Harper, Ledbetter, Whorton (R), Mooney, McCutcheon,
5 Butler, Fridy, Williams (P), Beckman, Daniels, Coleman,
6 Gaston, Lovvorn, Scott, Bracy, Buskey, Alexander, Brown,
7 Wingo, Fincher, Holmes (M), Drake, England, Drummond, Warren,
8 Forte, Beech, McMillan, Sells, Givan, Shiver, Polizos, Howard
9 and Hanes
10 RFD: Rules
11 First Read: 02-MAR-17

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8 ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE ON 21ST CENTURY FIREARM
9 LAWS.

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11 WHEREAS, protecting the public safety and welfare of
12 citizens is the most basic duty of government, and to this
13 end, effective and reasonable measures must be implemented to
14 keep Alabamians safe from violence; and

15 WHEREAS, Section 26 of the Official Recompilation of
16 the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, and the
17 Second Amendment to the United States Constitution protect the
18 right of an individual to bear arms in self-defense, and this
19 right is a fundamental right derived from the inherent
20 principle of self-preservation of individuals who have a need
21 to protect themselves in both their homes and in their
22 movements throughout this state; and

23 WHEREAS, it is appropriate to maintain a dialogue
24 with interested parties and experts throughout this state
25 regarding the effectiveness of existing firearms laws in
26 curbing abuse of firearms while minimizing the impact of any
27 restrictions on law-abiding firearm owners; and

1 WHEREAS, the laws in this state, as well as
2 surrounding states, regarding the possession and carrying of
3 firearms are in need of review to determine potential measures
4 to enhance public safety while preserving residents'
5 fundamental right to bear arms; now therefore,

6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
7 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created a Task Force
8 on 21st Century Firearm Laws.

9 (a) The appointing authorities shall coordinate
10 their appointments to assure that the Task Force on 21st
11 Century Firearms membership is inclusive and reflects the
12 racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural, and economic
13 diversity of the state.

14 (b) The membership of the task force shall consist
15 of appointments made by the following:

16 (1) The Secretary of the Alabama State Law
17 Enforcement Agency, or his or her designee.

18 (2) Two members of the House of Representatives
19 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and
20 one member of the House of Representatives appointed by the
21 Minority Leader.

22 (3) Two members of the Senate appointed by the
23 President Pro Tempore of the Senate and one member of the
24 Senate appointed by the Senate Minority Leader.

25 (4) The Director of the Office of Prosecution
26 Services, or his or her designee.

1 (5) The Director of the Business Council of Alabama,
2 or his or her designee.

3 (6) A sheriff appointed by the Alabama Sheriffs
4 Association.

5 (7) A chief of police appointed by the Alabama
6 Association of Chiefs of Police.

7 (8) The Chair of the Alabama Peace Officers'
8 Standards and Training Commission, or his or her designee.

9 (9) The Commissioner of the Alabama Department of
10 Mental Health, or his or her designee.

11 (10) Four members representing gun rights advocacy
12 organizations operating in Alabama that have at least 50
13 members, to be jointly appointed by the Speaker of the House
14 of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the
15 Senate.

16 (11) A superintendent of a local school board
17 appointed by the School Superintendents of Alabama.

18 (12) A district attorney appointed by the Alabama
19 District Attorneys Association.

20 (13) An educator, appointed by the Alabama Education
21 Association.

22 (c) The task force shall have all of the following
23 duties:

24 (1) Perform a complete and comprehensive review and
25 assessment of state laws and regulations regarding firearms in
26 Alabama.

1 (2) Perform a review of the laws and regulations of
2 firearms in other states.

3 (3) Identify issues and problem areas in the laws
4 governing the possession and carrying of firearms in Alabama
5 that can be addressed through legislation.

6 (4) Submit recommendations for needed legislative
7 actions to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the
8 President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the appropriate House
9 and Senate committees no later than the last legislative day
10 of the 2017 Regular Session at which time the task force shall
11 be dissolved; however, if the task force has not completed its
12 work at this time, the task force shall submit its report as
13 provided in this subdivision no later than October 1, 2017, at
14 which time the task force shall be dissolved.

15 (d)(1) Appointments to the task force shall be made
16 within 30 days after the effective date of this act.

17 (2) The task force shall hold its first meeting at
18 the call of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, with
19 the date, time, and location of the meeting designated by the
20 Speaker.

21 (3) The Speaker of the House of Representatives
22 shall select one of the appointed members and the President
23 Pro Tempore of the Senate shall select one of the appointed
24 members to serve as co-chairs of the task force.

25 (4) At the first meeting, the task force shall elect
26 other officers as determined by the task force, and shall set
27 dates, times, and locations of subsequent meetings.

1 (e) The House of Representatives and the Senate
2 shall provide the necessary staff and support to the task
3 force to perform its duties.

4 (f) Members of the task force shall serve without
5 compensation but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses in
6 attending meetings of the task force according to the policies
7 and procedures of their respective appointing authority.

8 (g) Legislative members of the task force shall be
9 entitled to their legislative compensation, per diem, and
10 travel expenses for each day they attend a meeting of the task
11 force in accordance with Amendment 871 of the Constitution of
12 Alabama of 1901.

13 (h) A copy of this resolution shall be provided to
14 all appointing authorities of the task force.