ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 1979 By: Ranson of the House

and

Rader of the Senate

An Act relating to public health and safety; creating the TBI Task Force; stating purpose; providing for composition and appointment of members; providing members serve without compensation; providing for meetings; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-291.8 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Traumatic Brain Injury Task Force (TBI Task Force) is hereby created to identify the needs of and best-practice approaches to traumatic brain injury (TBI) survivors in Oklahoma. The TBI Task Force's role is to make recommendations to the Legislature regarding TBIs. The TBI Task Force shall use a method of dialogue and consensus decision-making to arrive at its recommendations. Recommendations shall be provided no later than January 1, 2022.

B. The purpose of the TBI Task Force is to:

1. Review and assess care of TBI injuries in the state and determine areas of improvement;

2. Analyze care measures being provided in the state;

3. Identify and use existing studies of TBI care practices and programs in other states;

4. Work with other task forces, committees or organizations that are pursuing initiatives or studies similar to the purpose and duties outlined in this section and develop relationships with other task forces, committees or organizations to collaborate on similar efforts; and

5. Collaborate with, serve as a resource to and receive input from health care providers treating persons with TBI.

C. The TBI Task Force shall consist of eleven (11) members as follows:

1. The Governor shall appoint the executive director;

2. The Speaker of the House shall appoint:

a. a representative of the Brain Injury Alliance of Oklahoma,

b. a social worker with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs,

c. a representative of the State Department of Rehabilitation Services,

d. the executive director, or his or her designee, of the State Department of Health, and

e. a state representative; and

3. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint:

a. a state senator,

b. a health or allied health specialist,

c. a family member of a person with a TBI,

d. a special education teacher, and

e. a TBI survivor.

D. The appointing authorities shall make their initial appointments to the TBI Task Force no later than January 1, 2020.

E. Each member of the TBI Task Force shall serve without compensation.

F. The executive director shall call the meetings and notify the members of each meeting being called at least seven (7) days in advance.

G. Meetings shall be held as often as the executive director deems necessary, but not less than four times per calendar year. A quorum for the transaction of business consists of six members of the TBI Task Force.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.

Passed the House of Representatives the 14th day of March, 2019.

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Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

Passed the Senate the ___ day of _____, 2019.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate