

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 8

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2000 Regular Session
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By: **Delegates Stern, Barkley, Brinkley, Carlson, and Stull**
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2000
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Utilization of Health Care Services by Men**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a task force to study, review, and make
4 recommendations on why men are less likely to seek medical treatment;
5 requiring the task force to examine utilization patterns, review existing
6 programs that provide health care for men, and assess the needs for any
7 additional health care programs for men; providing for the composition and
8 meetings of the task force; requiring the task force to submit a certain report on
9 or before a certain date; providing for termination of the task force; and
10 generally relating to a task force to study utilization of health care services by
11 men.

12 WHEREAS, Statistics indicate that men have a predisposition to underutilize
13 health care services; and

14 WHEREAS, There is little information known about why men do not utilize
15 health care services to the fullest possible extent; and

16 WHEREAS, Access and utilization of medical care are key determinants of
17 health status; and

18 WHEREAS, Statistics indicate that men, on average have a life span that is 6
19 years less than that of women; and

20 WHEREAS, There is a societal benefit to finding ways to encourage utilization
21 of health care services by men; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That there is a
23 task force to study, review, and make recommendations on the Utilization of Health
24 Care Services by Men which shall examine the patterns of utilization of health care
25 services by men, examine the availability of programs that encourage the utilization
26 of health care services by men, and determine if adequate programs exist to meet the
27 health care needs of men; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the task force shall be composed of:

1 (1) Two members from the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
2 of the House;

3 (2) Two members from the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
4 President of the Senate; and

5 (3) Nine members appointed by the Governor as follows:

6 (i) One licensed physician from the University of Maryland School
7 of Medicine who specializes in treating diseases of men;

8 (ii) One licensed physician from the Johns Hopkins University
9 School of Medicine who specializes in treating diseases of men;

10 (iii) One representative from the Department of Health and Mental
11 Hygiene;

12 (iv) One representative from the Department of Human Resources;

13 (v) One licensed social worker;

14 (vi) One registered nurse;

15 (vii) One licensed psychiatrist;

16 (viii) One consumer member; and

17 (ix) One member from United Seniors; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Governor shall designate one of the members as
19 chairman of the task force; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall provide
21 professional and administrative support to the task force; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the task force shall:

23 (1) Determine the times and places of its meetings;

24 (2) Recommend measures to address the problems and concerns it
25 identifies; and

26 (3) Report its recommendations and findings to the Governor and, in
27 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on
28 or before December 1, 2000; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the members of the task force may not receive compensation
30 but are entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel
31 Regulations, as provided in the State Budget; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the existence of the task force shall terminate on December
2 31, 2000; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
4 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;
5 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and
6 the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates.