

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

Committee Report: Favorable
House action: Adopted
Read second time: February 22, 2000

RESOLUTION NO. _____

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

1 services by men, examine the availability of programs that encourage the utilization
2 of health care services by men, and determine if adequate programs exist to meet the
3 health care needs of men; and be it further

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

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

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

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

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

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

14 (iii) One representative from the Department of Health and Mental
15 Hygiene;

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

17 (v) One licensed social worker;

18 (vi) One registered nurse;

19 (vii) One licensed psychiatrist;

20 (viii) One consumer member; and

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

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

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

26 RESOLVED, That the task force shall:

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

28 (2) Recommend measures to address the problems and concerns it
29 identifies; and

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

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

4 RESOLVED, That the existence of the task force shall terminate on December
5 31, 2000; and be it further

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