

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2023

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1622

By: Representative A. Collins

By: Senator J. Boyd

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CREATE THE HEART ATTACK TASK FORCE; TO
PROVIDE FOR THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE HEART ATTACK
TASK FORCE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO CREATE THE HEART ATTACK TASK FORCE;
AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE POWERS AND DUTIES
OF THE HEART ATTACK TASK FORCE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 8, is amended to add an additional subchapter to read as follows:

Subchapter 12 – Heart Attack Task Force

20-8-1201. Legislative findings.

The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Heart diseases are the leading cause of death in the United States;

(2) The heart attack morality rate in Arkansas is among the highest in the nation; and

(3) Recommendations developed by experts working together can assist the State Board of Health in developing standards and policies to reduce the human and financial costs of heart attacks in Arkansas.

20-8-1202. Heart Attack Task Force – Creation – Membership.



(a)(1) There is created a Heart Attack Task Force to consist of fourteen (14) members to include members from all national organizations in this area of concern.

(2)(A) All national organizations shall have local chapters.

(B) If an organization no longer has a local chapter, the total number of members may be reduced to reflect that the organization has no local chapter in this state and no member may be appointed to represent the organization.

(b) The Secretary of the Department of Health shall appoint:

(1) One (1) member to represent the Department of Health;

(2) One (1) member to represent the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association;

(3) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Minority Health Commission;

(4) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Hospital Association, Inc.;

(5) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care, Inc.;

(6) One (1) member to represent the College of Public health of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences;

(7) One (1) member to represent the American College of Cardiology;

(8) One (1) member to represent emergency medical services;

(9) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Medical Society, Inc.;

(10) One (1) member to represent the medical insurance industry;

(11) One (1) member to represent the community at large;

(12) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Pharmacists Association;

(13) One (1) member to represent the American College of Emergency Physicians; and

(14) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Nurses Association.

(c)(1) Except for the initial members, members shall serve three-year terms.

(2) The initial members shall be assigned by lot so as to

stagger terms to equalize as nearly as possible the number of members to be appointed each year.

(d) If a vacancy occurs, the secretary shall appoint a person who represents the same constituency as the member being replaced.

(e) The task force shall elect one (1) of its members to act as chair for a term of one (1) year.

(f) A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

(g) The task force shall meet as necessary to further the intent and purpose of this subchapter.

20-8-1203. Powers and duties.

The Heart Attack Task Force shall:

(1) Make recommendations to the State Board of Health consistent with the intent and purpose of this subchapter;

(2) Pursue both public and private funding to further the intent of this subchapter; and

(3) Develop standards and policy recommendations including without limitation the following:

(A) Methods for raising public awareness of the prevalence and treatment considerations for heart attacks;

(B) The professional development of emergency medical services professionals to identify victims of heart attacks;

(C) The professional development of emergency room and hospital personnel to identify and treat victims of potential heart attacks;

(D) Methods for encouraging the use of accepted or emerging treatments, when appropriate;

(E) Methods for ensuring that a comprehensive range of heart attack recovery services are available to Arkansans recovering physical and mental functions affected by a heart attack;

(F) Methods for developing heart attack treatment centers; and

(G) Methods for developing and implementing a state heart attack registry.