

Council Substitute for
Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 967

An act relating to workplace safety; creating the Florida Public Task Force on Workplace Safety within the Safety Florida Consultation Program at the University of South Florida; providing the purpose of the task force; providing for membership; requiring that the task force address certain issues concerning workplace safety in the public and private sectors; providing for staffing; providing for members to serve without compensation but to be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses; authorizing the task force to procure information or assistance from any officer or agency of the state; requiring that such officers or agencies provide information and assistance to the task force; requiring that the task force submit a report and recommendations to the Governor, the Chief Financial Officer, and the Legislature by a specified date; requiring that the report include certain information; providing for dissolution of the task force; providing an appropriation; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. (1) The Florida Public Task Force on Workplace Safety is established within the Safety Florida Consultation Program at the University of South Florida for the purpose of developing findings and issuing recommendations regarding innovative ways by which the state may effectively ensure that each state department and agency and each county government and municipality located in the state complies with subparts C through T and subpart Z of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration Standards, 29 C.F.R. s. 1910, as revised July 1, 1993, with the exception of standards pertaining to firefighters and fire departments.

(2)(a) All members of the task force shall be appointed on or before July 15, 2008, and the task force shall hold its first meeting on or before August 15, 2008.

(b) The task force shall be composed of 15 members as follows:

1. Five members appointed by the Governor, one of whom must be a representative of a statewide business organization; one of whom must be a representative of organized labor; one of whom must be a professional whose work focuses on safety, health, and environmental issues; one of whom must be a representative of the executive branch of state government; and one of whom must be an academic having demonstrated knowledge of pertinent issues related to occupational safety and health. The Governor shall name one of the appointees under this subparagraph as chair of the task force.

2. Five members appointed by the President of the Senate, one of whom must be a representative of a statewide business organization; one of whom must be a representative of organized labor; one of whom must be a professional whose work focuses on safety, health, and environmental issues; one

of whom must be from the Florida Association of Counties; and one of whom must be active in private-sector business.

3. Five members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom must be a representative of a statewide business organization; one of whom must be a representative of organized labor; one of whom must be a professional whose work focuses on safety, health, and environmental issues; one of whom must be from the Florida League of Cities; and one of whom must be active in private-sector business.

(3) The task force shall address issues including, but not limited to:

(a) Differences in the workplace safety needs of private-sector employers and public-sector employers;

(b) The relationship between federal and state activities related to workplace safety; and

(c) The effect of public-sector workplace safety and health on the economic-development efforts of the state.

(4) The task force shall exist within the University of South Florida Safety Florida Consultation Program, and existing employees of that office shall provide staff support.

(5) Members of the task force shall serve without compensation while in the performance of their duties but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses in accordance with s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.

(6) The task force may procure information and assistance from any officer or agency of the state or any subdivision thereof. All such officers and agencies shall provide the task force with all relevant information and assistance on any matter within their knowledge or control.

(7) The task force shall submit a report and recommendations to the Governor, the Chief Financial Officer, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1, 2009. The report must include any specific recommendations for legislative action during the 2009 Regular Session of the Legislature.

(8) The task force is dissolved upon the submission of its report.

Section 2. The sum of \$100,000 in nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the Worker's Compensation Administration Trust Fund in the Department of Financial Services for transfer to the University of South Florida for the 2008-2009 fiscal year for the purpose of implementing the Florida Public Task Force on Workplace Safety.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 10, 2008.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 10, 2008.