

# SENATE AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Amend SS/HCS/House Bill No. 1877, Page 6, Section 210.118, Line 17

of said page, by inserting after all of said line the following:

"210.154. 1. There is hereby created within the department of social services the "Missouri Task Force on the Prevention of Infant Abuse and Neglect" to study and make recommendations to the governor and general assembly concerning the prevention of infant abuse and neglect in Missouri. The task force shall consist of the following nine members:

(1) Two members of the senate from different political parties, appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate;

(2) Two members of the house of representatives from different political parties, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

(3) The director of the department of social services, or his or her designee;

(4) The director of the department of health and senior services, or his or her designee;

(5) A SAFE CARE provider as described in section 334.950;

(6) A representative of a child advocacy organization specializing in prevention of child abuse and neglect; and

(7) A representative of a licensed Missouri hospital or

1 licensed Missouri birthing center.

2  
3 Members of the task force, other than the legislative members and  
4 the directors of state departments, shall be appointed by the  
5 governor with the advice and consent of the senate by September  
6 15, 2016.

7 2. A majority vote of a quorum of the task force is  
8 required for any action.

9 3. The task force shall elect a chair and vice-chair at its  
10 first meeting, which shall be convened by the director of the  
11 department of social services, or his or her designee, no later  
12 than October 1, 2016. Meetings may be held by telephone or video  
13 conference at the discretion of the chair.

14 4. Members shall serve on the task force without  
15 compensation but may, subject to appropriations, be reimbursed  
16 for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of  
17 their official duties as members of the task force.

18 5. On or before December 31, 2016, the task force shall  
19 submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the  
20 governor and general assembly.

21 6. The task shall develop recommendations to reduce infant  
22 abuse and neglect, including but not limited to:

23 (1) Sharing information between the children's division and  
24 hospitals and birthing centers for the purpose of identifying  
25 newborn infants who may be at risk of abuse and neglect; and

26 (2) Training division employees and medical providers to  
27 recognize the signs of infant child abuse and neglect.

28  
29 The recommendations may include proposals for specific statutory

1 and regulatory changes and methods to foster cooperation between  
2 state and local governmental bodies, medical providers, and child  
3 welfare agencies.

4 7. The task force shall expire on January 1, 2017, or upon  
5 submission of a report as provided for under subsection 5 of this  
6 section."; and

7 Further amend the title and enacting clause accordingly.