

CHAPTER 66

AN ACT concerning the New Jersey Epilepsy Task Force and amending P.L.2010, c.48.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. Section 2 of P.L.2010, c.48 is amended to read as follows:

2. a. There is established the New Jersey Epilepsy Task Force in the Department of Health.

The purpose of the task force shall be to:

(1) develop recommendations to educate the public and health care professionals about screening, diagnosis, and treatment of epilepsy and its complications; and

(2) develop recommendations to address psychosocial issues faced by persons with epilepsy, such as, depression, stigmatization, and discrimination.

b. The task force shall consist of 14 members as follows:

(1) the Commissioners of Health and Human Services, or their designees, who shall serve ex officio; and

(2) 12 public members, who shall be appointed by the Governor as follows: two neurologists licensed to practice medicine in this State, one of whom specializes in pediatric neurology; one person upon the recommendation of the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey; two persons who represent agencies that provide services to persons with epilepsy in this State; one school nurse; two persons who have epilepsy; one parent of a person who has epilepsy; one member of the public with a demonstrated expertise in issues relating to the work of the task force; one member of the New Jersey State School Nurses Association; and one consultant pharmacist. No public member of the task force shall be associated, directly or indirectly, with any pharmaceutical manufacturer.

Vacancies in the membership of the task force shall be filled in the same manner provided for the original appointments.

c. The task force shall organize within 120 days following the appointment of a majority of its members and shall select a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among the members. The chairperson shall appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the task force.

d. The public members shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties and within the limits of funds available to the task force.

e. The task force shall be entitled to call to its assistance and avail itself of the services of the employees of any State, county or municipal department, board, bureau, commission or agency as it may require and as may be available to it for its purposes.

f. The task force may meet and hold hearings as it deems appropriate.

g. The Department of Health shall provide staff support to the task force.

2. Section 3 of P.L.2010, c.48 is amended to read as follows:

3. The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), along with any legislative bills that it desires to recommend for adoption by the Legislature, as follows: an interim report no later than 12 months after the initial meeting of the task force; and a final report no later than 12 months after the initial report.

3. Section 4 of P.L.2010, c.48 is amended to read as follows:

4. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire upon the issuance of the task force's final report.

Approved June 13, 2013.