

House File 2455 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2455

BY BENNETT

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the establishment of a task force regarding
2 climate adaptability and resiliency.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF TASK FORCE — CLIMATE
2 ADAPTABILITY AND RESILIENCY.

3 1. The department of public health shall convene a task
4 force to address the public health challenges and health
5 consequences of climate change by developing an action plan
6 for climate adaptability and resiliency in the state. The
7 goals of the task force shall include enhancing the adaptive
8 capacity of state and local infrastructure to climate change
9 and strengthening overall environmental, economic, and social
10 resiliency.

11 2. The task force shall involve stakeholders representing
12 the diverse perspectives of health-determining sectors,
13 including local public health agencies, health care providers,
14 climate scientists, hydrologists and engineers, city and county
15 planners, community leaders, environmental justice leaders,
16 agriculture and food production leaders and workers, and
17 other stakeholders appropriate for incorporating the effects
18 of climate change into integrated, comprehensive strategic
19 planning across multiple sectors and to inform community
20 resource development including the public health and health
21 care infrastructures.

22 3. The task force may consider all of the following:

23 a. The guiding principles for adaptation outlined in
24 the 2010 progress report of the interagency climate change
25 adaptation task force including adopting integrated approaches,
26 using best available science, prioritizing the most vulnerable,
27 building strong partnerships, maximizing mutual benefits, and
28 continuously evaluating performance.

29 b. The building resilience against climate effects
30 framework of the centers for disease control and prevention
31 of the United States department of health and human services
32 designed to allow health officials to develop strategies and
33 programs to help communities prepare for the health effects of
34 climate change.

35 4. The task force shall specifically focus on weather and

1 climate effects on the social and environmental determinants
2 of human health including clean air, safe drinking water,
3 adequate sanitation, sufficient food, and secure shelter to
4 protect the health of Iowans who would be most at risk to
5 impacts of climate change including temperature changes,
6 lack of availability of water during periods of drought, and
7 threats to water supply and wastewater infrastructure resulting
8 from extreme weather events. Additionally, the task force
9 shall address prevention and mitigation of the effects of
10 climate change including on the prevalence and transmission
11 of infectious diseases, allergic responses, respiratory and
12 cardiovascular diseases related to worsening air pollution,
13 nutritional shortages related to changes in food production,
14 mental health, and population dislocation.

15 5. The task force shall submit a report of its findings and
16 recommended next steps to the governor and the general assembly
17 by November 30, 2022.

18 EXPLANATION

19 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
20 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

21 This bill provides for the establishment of a task force
22 regarding climate adaptability and resiliency.

23 Under the bill, the department of public health shall
24 convene a task force to address the public health challenges
25 and health consequences of climate change by developing an
26 action plan for climate adaptability and resiliency in the
27 state. The goals of the task force shall include enhancing the
28 adaptive capacity of state and local infrastructure to climate
29 change and strengthening overall environmental, economic, and
30 social resiliency. The task force shall involve stakeholders
31 representing the diverse perspectives of health-determining
32 sectors as appropriate for incorporating the effects of climate
33 change into integrated, comprehensive strategic planning across
34 multiple sectors and to inform community resource development
35 including the public health and health care infrastructures.

1 The task force may consider the guiding principles for
2 adaptation outlined in the 2010 progress report of the
3 interagency climate change adaptation task force and the
4 building resilience against climate effects framework of the
5 centers for disease control and prevention of the United States
6 department of health and human services designed to allow
7 health officials to develop strategies and programs to help
8 communities prepare for the health effects of climate change.

9 The task force shall specifically focus on weather and
10 climate effects on the social and environmental determinants of
11 human health including clean air, safe drinking water, adequate
12 sanitation, sufficient food, and secure shelter to protect
13 the health of Iowans who would be most at risk to impacts of
14 climate change. Additionally, the task force shall address
15 prevention and mitigation of the effects of climate change
16 including on the prevalence and transmission of infectious
17 diseases, allergic responses, respiratory and cardiovascular
18 diseases related to worsening air pollution, nutritional
19 shortages related to changes in food production, mental health,
20 and population dislocation.

21 The task force shall submit a report of its findings and
22 recommended next steps to the governor and the general assembly
23 by November 30, 2022.