

SS SB 890 -- MISSING AND MURDERED AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN AND GIRLS
TASK FORCE

SPONSOR: Mosley (Riley)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 12 to 1 and 1 present. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Administrative Oversight by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill establishes the "Missing and Murdered African American Women and Girls Task Force". The membership is specified in the bill and includes two members of the House of Representatives, with one appointed by the Speaker and one appointed by the Minority Floor Leader of the House of Representatives. The task force must elect a chairperson and hold an initial meeting before October 1, 2024.

The task force will submit a report regarding policies and measures to address violence against African American women and girls to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 31st of each year. The task force expires on December 31, 2026, unless the Department of Public Safety determines the Task Force should be extended until December 31, 2028.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this legislation establishes a much needed task force to help identify the reasons behind the high number of murdered and missing African American women and girls. The number of missing and murdered African American women and girls is much higher than the number of missing women and girls of other races. This task force will help identify why African American women and girls are being specifically targeted and why they experience such a high level of violence.

Testifying in person for the bill were Senator Mosley; Missouri State Conference of The NAACP; and Abortion Action Missouri.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.