

HB 485 -- MISSING AND MURDERED WOMEN AND CHILDREN TASK FORCE

SPONSOR: Hausman

This bill creates the "Missing and Murdered Women Task Force" with membership as provided in the bill. The Task Force must elect a chairperson and must hold an initial meeting before October 1, 2025. The members of the Task Force are specified in the bill and include: two members of the House of Representatives, one appointed by the Speaker of the House and one by the Minority Floor Leader; and two members of the Senate, one appointed by the President Pro Tem of the Senate and one by the Minority Floor Leader.

The Task Force will submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly on or before December 31st of each year regarding policies and measures to address:

- (1) Violence against women and girls;
- (2) Policies and institutions such as policing, child welfare, coroner practices, and other governmental practices that impact violence against women and girls, and the investigation and prosecution of crimes of gender violence against women and girls;
- (3) Measures necessary to address and reduce violence against women and girls; and
- (4) Measures to help victims, victims' families, and victims' communities prevent and heal from violence that occurs against women and girls.

The Task Force will expire on December 31, 2027, unless the Department of Public Safety determines the Task Force should be extended until December 31, 2029.

This bill is similar to SB 890 (2024) and HB 2397 (2024)