

Senate File 2386 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2386
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3165)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing a task force relating to the reunification
2 of an unaccompanied child or dependent adult with the
3 child's or dependent adult's parent, guardian, or custodian
4 following a disaster.

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

1 Section 1. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY
2 MANAGEMENT — CHILD OR DEPENDENT ADULT REUNIFICATION FOLLOWING
3 A DISASTER — TASK FORCE.

4 1. The department of homeland security and emergency
5 management shall convene a task force to study the current
6 status of unaccompanied children and dependent adults following
7 a disaster, who are not under the supervision of a school or
8 the department of human services, to ascertain gaps, assess
9 capacity concerns, identify resources, and examine issues
10 including specifically the dangers that a child or dependent
11 adult separated from a parent, guardian, or custodian may face
12 including victimization, abuse, kidnapping, or exploitation,
13 and reunification efforts that need to be addressed by all
14 agencies and organizations across the response community.
15 The task force shall develop specific policy recommendations
16 relating to the reunification of an unaccompanied child or
17 dependent adult with the child's or dependent adult's parent,
18 guardian, or custodian following a disaster.

19 2. The task force members shall include but are not limited
20 to representatives from the department of public safety, the
21 department of human services, the department of homeland
22 security and emergency management, the Iowa state sheriffs and
23 deputies association, a police officers association, a fire
24 fighters association, and other agencies as deemed appropriate.
25 The task force members shall also include four legislators as
26 ex officio, nonvoting members. The four legislators shall
27 be appointed one each by the majority leader of the senate,
28 the minority leader of the senate, the speaker of the house
29 of representatives, and the minority leader of the house of
30 representatives for terms as provided in section 69.16B.

31 3. The task force shall convene by October 2, 2020, and
32 shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to
33 the general assembly for consideration by December 15, 2020.

34 EXPLANATION

35 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with

1 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

2 This bill establishes a task force relating to the
3 reunification of an unaccompanied child or dependent adult with
4 the child's or dependent adult's parent, guardian, or custodian
5 following a disaster.

6 The bill requires the department of homeland security and
7 emergency management to convene a task force to study the
8 current status of unaccompanied children and dependent adults
9 following a disaster, who are not under the supervision of
10 a school or the department of human services, to ascertain
11 gaps, assess capacity concerns, identify resources, examine
12 issues including specific issues relating to the dangers a
13 child or dependent adult may face and reunification efforts by
14 all agencies and organizations across the response community.
15 The task force shall develop specific policy recommendations
16 relating to the reunification of an unaccompanied child or
17 dependent adult with the child's or dependent adult's parent,
18 guardian, or custodian following a disaster.

19 The bill provides that task force members shall include
20 but are not limited to representatives from the department of
21 public safety, the department of human services, the department
22 of homeland security and emergency management, the Iowa
23 state sheriffs and deputies association, a police officers
24 association, a fire fighters association, and other agencies
25 as deemed appropriate. The task force members shall also
26 include four legislators as ex officio, nonvoting members. The
27 task force shall convene by October 2, 2020, and shall submit
28 a report of its findings and recommendations to the general
29 assembly for consideration by December 15, 2020.