



## Task Force on Holistic and Effective Responses to Illicit Drug Use

**Date:** 06.11.2025

Open meeting law in-person location, staffing, and task force members in attendance:

**Task Force members in attendance:** Phil Baebenroth, Jillian Dease, Kurt DeVine, Barry Edwards, Ryan Kelly, Donald Lannoye, Shane Myre, Dziwe Ntaba, Bradley Ray, Bill Ward

**Absent:** Chris Bates, Lauren Graber, Alex Kraak, Donovan Sather

**Design team:** Jennifer Blanchard (OAR at in-person location: Centennial office building), Cat Rohde (OAR), Stephanie Klein (MAD), Abra Pollock (MAD), Ari Edelman-McHenry (Rise Research), Anne Siegler (Rise Research)

**Other:** Sonja Mydels, and one Unknown caller (left after only a few minutes)

### Agenda items

#### Welcome and roll call

- **Members and observers were welcomed:** Noted it was a working meeting with (time permitting) public comment at the end, and public can observe and submit comments to the Office of Addiction and Recovery (OAR). Noted that the Office of Addiction and Recovery email is located on the [task force website](#).
- **Opening statements were provided by task force chairs and OAR staff**
- **Review of agenda:** Agenda and objectives for the meeting were reviewed.
- **Roll call and introductions:** Roll call was taken.
- **Approve of minutes:** Meeting notes for May were approved.

#### Discussion of recommendations not covered in May meeting

**Note:** This segment *only* included discussion of the drug policing recommendations that were not covered in the May meeting.

All present task force members had the opportunity to comment on the remaining nine recommendations, offering personal insight, providing expertise specific to law enforcement and legalities, raising questions, identifying recurring themes, and discussing potential barriers.

#### Vote on drug policing recommendations

- Task force members were supplied with a list of the drug policing recommendations before the meeting and were encouraged to use that document to submit their votes in advance, if they were not able to attend.
- At this segment of the meeting, each task force member present had the opportunity to vote on the recommendations in the order they were discussed, via Mural.

- OAR and MAD staff cast the votes of absent members that were sent in advance.
- With a total of 12 task force members voting (either in the meeting or in advance), each recommendation needed 9 “Yes” votes to pass and achieve 75% supermajority.
- All 21 drug policing recommendations will be included in the revised report with the final voting results for each.

## **Discussion/drafting what TF members would like to include in the revised report**

- The February through June 2025 meetings will be added to the report.
- The drug policing recommendations will be added to the report.
  - The section that included the 20 prioritized recommendations will stay as is.
  - Approved drug policing recommendations will be added to Appendix D.
  - Unapproved drug policing recommendations will be added to Appendix E.
- Themes that have emerged will be included to provide context while these recommendations are being evaluated by the legislature.
- Direct quotes from task force discussion may be included to add depth to report content. Task force members indicated support for this option.
- **Comments included:**
  - The duty to help the patients now and we want our legislature to look at what is in the public's interest long term rather than being reactive.
  - The hope that the legislature, as they look at these laws moving forward, truly look at the report provided to them.

## **Next steps**

- The team that's been facilitating and convening the task force will draft the updated report.
- Draft report will be sent to task force members who wish to review and provide feedback.
- Draft will undergo a (30-day) process of reviews and approvals including accessibility, the MMB Communications department, and the Governor’s Office Communications department.
- The final, approved report will be complete and submitted to the legislative library and to the ranking chairs and minority leaders; earliest likely timeframe would be the end of July.

## **Public comment**

- No members of the public were present to provide comments.

## **Adjourn and thank you**

- Closing statements by task force chairs, members, and staff included gratitude for the respectful conversations, an appreciation of everyone’s dedication, involvement, and expertise, and the opportunity to learn through discussion.
- The task force meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.