AMENDMENTS TO LB89

Introduced by Mello, 5.

1. Strike original sections 2 and 5 and insert the following new sections:

Sec. 4. (1) The Intergenerational Poverty Task Force is created. The executive committee of the task force shall consist of the following voting members:

(a) The chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature;

(b) The chairperson of the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature; and

(c) Three at-large members appointed by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council.

The voting members of the executive committee shall choose a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among the voting members.

The chief executive officer of the Department of Health and Human Services or his or her designee, the Commissioner of Labor, and the Commissioner of Education shall be nonvoting, ex officio members of the executive committee of the task force.

(2) The remaining members of the task force shall be nonvoting members appointed by the executive committee of the task force through an application and selection process, representing (a) advocacy groups that focus on childhood poverty issues and education issues, (b) academic experts in childhood poverty or education, (c) service providers, (d) educational institutions, (e) workforce development agencies, and (f) experts in early childhood education. The members appointed pursuant to this subsection shall constitute the advisory committee to the task force.

Sec. 5. The Intergenerational Poverty Task Force shall, with
respect to programs including, but not limited to, the aid to dependent
children program described in section 43-513, the federal Supplemental
Nutrition Assistance Program established pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2011 et
seq., as such sections existed on January 1, 2015, the child care
assistance program described in section 68-1206, and the Employment First
program developed pursuant to the self-sufficiency contract described in
sections 68-1719 to 68-1724 and rules and regulations of the Department
of Health and Human Services:

(1) Share, examine, and analyze data and information regarding
intergenerational poverty in the state with a primary focus on data and
information regarding children who are at risk of continuing the cycle of
poverty unless outside intervention is made and develop effective and
efficient plans, programs, and recommendations to help such children
escape the cycle of poverty;

(2) Encourage participation and input from academic experts,
avocacy groups, nonprofit corporations, local governments, and faith-
based institutions in exploring strategies and solutions to help children
who are victims of intergenerational poverty escape the cycle of poverty;

(3) Study, evaluate, and report on the status and effectiveness of
policies, procedures, and programs implemented by other states and by
nongovernmental entities that address the needs of and that provide
services to children affected by intergenerational poverty;

(4) Identify policies, procedures, and programs, including any lack
of interagency data sharing, lack of policy coordination, or current
federal requirements, that are impeding efforts to help children in the
state affected by intergenerational poverty escape the cycle of poverty
and recommend changes to those policies and procedures;

(5) Create a long-range strategic plan containing:
(a) Measurable goals and benchmarks, including future action needed
to attain those goals and benchmarks, for decreasing the incidence of
intergenerational poverty among the state's children and increasing the
number of the state's children who escape the cycle of poverty; and

(b) Recommended data-supported changes to policies, procedures, and programs to address the needs of children affected by intergenerational poverty and to help those children escape the cycle of poverty, including the steps that will be required to make the recommended changes and whether further action is required by the Legislature or the federal government; and

(6) Protect the privacy of individuals living in poverty by using and distributing the data it collects or examines in compliance with federal requirements and with sections 84-712 to 84-712.09.

Sec. 6. To accomplish its duties, the Intergenerational Poverty Task Force may:

(1) Request and receive from any state or local governmental entity or institution information relating to poverty in the state, including reports, audits, data, projections, and statistics; and

(2) Appoint special committees to advise and assist the task force. Members of any such special committee shall be appointed by the chairperson of the task force and may be members of the task force or individuals from the private or public sector. A special committee shall report to the task force on the progress of the special committee. Members of a special committee appointed under this section may not receive reimbursement or pay for work done in relation to the special committee.

Sec. 7. (1) On or before December 15, 2015, the Intergenerational Poverty Task Force shall submit a preliminary report and on or before December 15, 2016, the task force shall submit a final report (a) to the Governor and (b) electronically to the Executive Board of the Legislative Council.

(2) The preliminary report and the final report shall:

(a) Include the long-range strategic plan required pursuant to section 2 of this act;
(b) Describe how the task force fulfilled its statutory purposes and duties during the time period covered by the report;

(c) Describe policies, procedures, and programs that have been implemented or modified to help break the cycle of poverty for children affected or at risk of being affected by intergenerational poverty; and

(d) Contain recommendations on how the state should act to address issues relating to breaking the cycle of poverty for children affected or at risk of being affected by intergenerational poverty.

Sec. 8. The Intergenerational Poverty Task Force terminates on December 31, 2016.

Sec. 9. Sections 1 to 3 and 10 of this act become operative on July 1, 2015. The other sections of this act become operative on their effective date.

2. Renumber the remaining sections and correct the repealer accordingly.