

Senate Bill 431

By: Senators Jackson of the 2nd and Harbison of the 15th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 30 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to handicapped  
2 persons, so as to create the Governor's Task Force on Blind and Visually Impaired Persons;  
3 to provide for membership; to provide for duties; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Title 30 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to handicapped persons, is  
8 amended by adding a new chapter to read as follows:

9 style="text-align:center">"CHAPTER 11

10 30-11-1.

11 There is created the Governor's Task Force on Blind and Visually Impaired Persons. The  
12 task force shall be attached to the Department of Human Services for administrative  
13 purposes only as provided for in Code Section 50-4-3.

14 30-11-2.

15 The Governor's Task Force on Blind and Visually Impaired Persons shall consist of seven  
16 members appointed by the Governor as follows: one member shall be a member of the  
17 House of Representatives, one member shall be a member of the Senate, and five members  
18 shall be citizens of this state who are deemed by the Governor to possess certain knowledge  
19 and experience for contribution to the task force. Agencies of this state may be invited by  
20 the Governor to participate in the task force as nonmembers based on needs identified over  
21 time. The Governor shall designate a member of the task force to serve as chairperson of  
22 the task force. The task force shall elect such other officers from its membership as it

23 deems necessary. The task force shall meet at the call of the chairperson and adopt rules  
24 and procedures for its operation.

25 30-11-3.

26 The Governor's Task Force on Blind and Visually Impaired Persons shall meet at least  
27 quarterly and shall investigate how state services and initiatives can be developed or  
28 improved for blind and visually impaired persons, including but not limited to services and  
29 initiatives impacting mobility and access; elementary, secondary, and postsecondary  
30 education; vocational and work force development; veterans; and community awareness.  
31 The task force shall issue recommendations to state agencies regarding improving the  
32 delivery of services to blind and visually impaired persons. On or before November 1 of  
33 each year, the task force shall transmit specific suggestions for legislation to the Governor."

34 **SECTION 2.**

35 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.