

Senate Bill 233

By: Senator Brass of the 6th

AS PASSED SENATE

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 6 of Chapter 1 of Title 37 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to the Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission, so as to revise the
3 composition of the commission; to revise the subcommittees; to extend the automatic repeal
4 date; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting
5 laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 6 of Chapter 1 of Title 37 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
9 Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission, is amended by revising subsection
10 (a) of Code Section 37-1-112, relating to the members, terms, officers, and operational
11 matters of the commission, as follows:

12 "(a) The commission shall be composed of ~~24~~ 30 members as follows:

13 (1) The following members appointed by the Governor:

14 (A) A chairperson;

15 (B) A psychiatrist who specializes in children and adolescents;

16 (C) A psychiatrist who specializes in adults;

- 17 (D) A health care provider with expertise in traumatic brain injuries;
- 18 (E) A state education official with broad experience in education policy;
- 19 (F) A chief executive officer of a mental health facility;
- 20 (G) A forensic psychologist;
- 21 (H) A local education official; ~~and~~
- 22 (I) A professional who specializes in substance abuse and addiction;
- 23 (J) An individual with lived experience having survived the disease of addiction who
- 24 is a certified addiction recovery specialist; and
- 25 (K) An intellectual and developmental disabilities provider;
- 26 (2) The following members appointed by the President of the Senate:
- 27 (A) Two members of the Senate;
- 28 (B) A sheriff;
- 29 (C) A licensed clinical behavioral health professional;
- 30 (D) A behavioral health advocate; ~~and~~
- 31 (E) A representative of a community service board;
- 32 (F) An individual who has lost a member of his or her immediate family to drug
- 33 overdose or fentanyl poisoning; and
- 34 (G) A leader of an intellectual and developmental disabilities advocacy organization;
- 35 (3) The following members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:
- 36 (A) Two members of the House of Representatives;
- 37 (B) A police chief;
- 38 (C) A licensed clinical behavioral health professional;
- 39 (D) A behavioral health advocate; ~~and~~
- 40 (E) A judge who presides in an accountability court, as defined in Code Section
- 41 15-1-18; ~~and~~
- 42 (F) A professional who is an executive director of an accredited Georgia nonprofit
- 43 organization focused on addiction and recovery; and

44 (G) The parent of an individual with intellectual and developmental disabilities or an
 45 individual with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and

46 (4) The following members appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of
 47 Georgia:

48 (A) One Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia; and

49 (B) Two judges."

50 **SECTION 2.**

51 Said article is further amended by revising Code Section 37-1-115, relating to
 52 subcommittees, as follows:

53 "37-1-115.

54 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this Code section, the ~~The~~ chairperson of the
 55 commission shall appoint members of the following subcommittees from among the
 56 membership of the commission and may also appoint up to two other
 57 noncommission-member persons as he or she may determine to be necessary as relevant
 58 to and consistent with this article:

59 (1) Children and Adolescent Behavioral Health;

60 (2) ~~Involuntary Commitment~~ Addictive Diseases;

61 (3) Hospital and Short-Term Care Facilities;

62 (4) Mental Health Courts and Corrections; and

63 (5) ~~Workforce and System Development~~ Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

64 (b) The chairperson, at his or her discretion, may designate and appoint other
 65 subcommittees from among the membership of the commission and may also appoint up
 66 to two other noncommission-member persons as he or she may determine to be necessary
 67 as relevant to and consistent with this article."

68 **SECTION 3.**

69 Said article is further amended by revising Code Section 37-1-116, relating to abolishment
70 and termination, as follows:

71 "37-1-116.

72 The commission shall be abolished and this article shall stand repealed on ~~June 30, 2025~~
73 December 31, 2026."

74 **SECTION 4.**

75 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
76 without such approval.

77 **SECTION 5.**

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