

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION directing the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to
2 establish the Task Force on Services for Persons with Brain Injuries.

3 WHEREAS, according to the Brain Injury Association of America, it is estimated
4 that every nine seconds a person in the United States sustains a brain injury; and

5 WHEREAS, an acquired brain injury (ABI) is an injury to the brain that is not
6 hereditary, congenital, degenerative, or induced by birth trauma; and

7 WHEREAS, typical causes of ABI include electric shock, infectious disease, stroke,
8 substance use disorder or overdose, and tumors; and

9 WHEREAS, there are many causes of traumatic brain injury (TBI), a type of ABI
10 caused by outside force, including falls, motor vehicle accidents, and assault; and

11 WHEREAS, every day an estimated 137 people die in the United States because of
12 a TBI-related injury; and

13 WHEREAS, brain injury is unpredictable in its consequences and can change
14 everything about a person in a matter of seconds; and

15 WHEREAS, for some, brain injury is the start of a lifelong disease process
16 requiring access to a full continuum of treatment and community-based supports provided
17 by appropriately educated clinicians serving on an interdisciplinary treatment team; and

18 WHEREAS, the availability of community-based services and supports for persons
19 with brain injury varies from state to state; and

20 WHEREAS, the focus of rehabilitation is to enable individuals to perform their
21 activities of daily living safely and independently so they can move on to other forms of
22 rehabilitation or transition to their home; and

23 WHEREAS, when a person sustains a brain injury, several members of that person's
24 community are affected, including families, friends, employers, government agencies,
25 healthcare providers, attorneys, insurance companies, and educators; and

26 WHEREAS, it is in the interest of all citizens of the Commonwealth to help persons
27 with ABIs to access the services and supports they need to reach their fullest life

1 potential;

2 NOW, THEREFORE,

3 ***Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

4 ➔Section 1. The Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall establish the Task
5 Force on Services for Persons with Brain Injuries to study and make recommendations
6 related to the improvement of services for persons with an acquired or a traumatic brain
7 injury and their families.

8 ➔Section 2. The duties of the task force shall include but not be limited to:

9 (1) Considering expert testimony on the epidemiology of brain injury and the needs of
10 persons with an acquired or traumatic brain injury and their families;

11 (2) Examining the availability, types, and adequacy of current rehabilitation, residential,
12 and integrated community-based support services for persons with an acquired or
13 traumatic brain injury and their families, including but not limited to:

14 (a) Acute and long-term medical and cognitive rehabilitation and outpatient
15 services;

16 (b) Therapy services;

17 (c) Residential nursing care;

18 (d) Structured day treatment and day activity programs;

19 (e) Community and club programs;

20 (f) Respite care services;

21 (g) Community-based housing;

22 (h) Home-based services;

23 (i) Family support programs;

24 (j) Case management;

25 (k) Companion services;

26 (l) Personal care attendant services;

27 (m) Specialized medical equipment and supplies;

- 1 (n) Environmental modifications;
- 2 (o) Counseling and training;
- 3 (p) Prevocational and vocational services; and
- 4 (q) Neurobehavioral services; and
- 5 (3) Considering any additional testimony that may be helpful to the task force in
- 6 making recommendations related to improvement of services to persons with an
- 7 acquired or traumatic brain injury and providers of services to persons with an
- 8 acquired or traumatic brain injury.

9 ➔Section 3. The Task force on Services for Persons with Brain Injuries shall be
10 composed of the following members:

- 11 (1) The Secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services who shall serve as
- 12 chair of the task force;
- 13 (2) The Commissioner of the Department for Medicaid Services;
- 14 (3) The Commissioner of the Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and
- 15 Intellectual Disabilities;
- 16 (4) The Commissioner of the Department for Aging and Independent Living;
- 17 (5) The Executive Director of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation;
- 18 (6) The Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs;
- 19 (7) One member from the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
- 20 House of Representatives;
- 21 (8) One member from the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority Floor
- 22 Leader of the House of Representatives;
- 23 (9) One member from the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate;
- 24 (10) One member from the Senate appointed by the Minority Floor Leader of the Senate;
- 25 (11) One member of the Kentucky Advisory Board for the Brain Injury Association of
- 26 America to be nominated by the board;
- 27 (12) One person with an acquired or traumatic brain injury to be appointed by the

1 Governor from a list of three names submitted by the Kentucky Advisory Board for
2 the Brain Injury Association of America;

3 (13) One family member of a person with an acquired or traumatic brain injury to be
4 appointed by the Governor from a list of three names submitted by the Kentucky
5 Advisory Board for the Brain Injury Association of America; and

6 (14) Two brain injury specialists with at least five years of experience in the field from a
7 list of three names submitted by the Kentucky Advisory Board for the Brain Injury
8 Association of America.

9 ➔Section 4. The task force shall meet at least monthly beginning June 1, 2020.
10 The task force shall submit findings and recommendations for the improvement of
11 rehabilitation, residential, and integrated community-based support services for persons
12 with an acquired or traumatic brain injury and their families to the Legislative Research
13 Commission for referral to the appropriate committee or committees by December 1,
14 2020.

15 ➔Section 5. The Task Force on Services for Persons with Brain Injuries shall
16 cease to exist December 31, 2020, unless otherwise reauthorized by the General
17 Assembly.