

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

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HOUSE BILL 534

Short Title: Funds/Est. Black Women & Girls Task Force. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives A. Baker and K. Smith (Primary Sponsors).  
*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

April 13, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NORTH CAROLINA BLACK WOMEN AND GIRLS TASK  
3 FORCE AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE TASK FORCE.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.(a)** Article 9 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended by  
6 adding a new Part to read:

7 "Part 31. North Carolina Black Women and Girls Task Force.

8 **"§ 143B-426.60. North Carolina Black Women and Girls Task Force.**

9 (a) Task Force Established. – There is established the North Carolina Black Women and  
10 Girls Task Force (Task Force) within the Department of Administration for budgetary purposes  
11 only.

12 (b) Membership. – The Task Force shall consist of 13 members and shall include all of  
13 the following:

14 (1) Nine grassroots-led selected North Carolina advocacy nonprofit organization  
15 leaders that serve black women and/or girls who have an established mission  
16 of serving black women and/or girls within the State for a minimum of two  
17 years and appointed by the Secretary of Administration or his or her designee.

18 (2) Two persons who are members of the Senate at the time of appointment, at  
19 least one of whom represents the minority party, appointed by the President  
20 Pro Tempore of the Senate.

21 (3) Two persons who are members of the House of Representatives at the time of  
22 appointment, at least one of whom represents the minority party, appointed by  
23 the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

24 (c) Appointment of Cochairs. – The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker  
25 of the House of Representatives shall each designate a cochair. The cochair appointed by the  
26 President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall preside over the Task Force during the odd-numbered  
27 year, and the cochair appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall preside in  
28 the even-numbered year. A cochair may preside at any time during the absence of the presiding  
29 cochair or upon the presiding cochair's designation.

30 (d) Terms, Vacancies. – All members shall be appointed for a term of two years.  
31 Members may be reappointed to successive terms. A vacancy on the task force shall be filled by  
32 the original appointing authority using the criteria for the prior appointment. Any appointment  
33 to fill a vacancy on the Task Force created by the resignation, dismissal, death, disability, or  
34 disqualification of a member shall be for the balance of the unexpired term.



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1 (e) Removal. – The Governor may remove any member of the Task Force for  
2 misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance, pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 143B-13.

3 (f) Meetings, Quorum. – The Task Force shall meet upon the call of its cochairs. The  
4 Task Force may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building. A majority  
5 of the Task Force shall constitute a quorum.

6 (g) Compensation, Staff. – Members of the Task Force shall receive per diem and  
7 necessary travel and subsistence expenses in accordance with G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, and 138-6, as  
8 applicable. The Secretary of Administration shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist  
9 the Task Force in its work.

10 **"§ 143B-426.61. Black Women and Girls Task Force – duties.**

11 The Task Force shall serve as an advisory committee to study disaggregated findings  
12 concerning the well-being of cisgender and transgender black women and girls in the State. In  
13 conducting this examination, the Task Force shall examine the following issues:

14 (1) Study the health and wealth disparities of black women and their impact.

15 (2) Review educational justice principles for black girls and the impact of trauma  
16 to learning.

17 (3) Research all forms of violence to and on black women and girls.

18 (4) Consider the impact of the criminal and juvenile justice system on black  
19 women and girls, including incarceration of black women and girls.

20 (5) Examine the effect of political advocacy and engagement, employment, and  
21 health care, especially in the context of disparate impacts of COVID-19,  
22 cancer, stress disorders, high blood pressure, maternal morbidity and infant  
23 mortality, reproduction, and other disparate health factors.

24 **"§ 143B-426.62. Black Women and Girls Task Force – report.**

25 The Task Force shall submit its first report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight  
26 Committee and the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services prior  
27 to the convening of the 2023 General Assembly and biennially thereafter. The report shall contain  
28 at least a summary of conclusions for each of the duties assigned to the Task Force under  
29 G.S. 143B-426.61. Any recommendations proposing changes to law, rule, or policy shall be  
30 accompanied by specific legislative or policy proposals and estimated implementation costs.

31 **"§ 143B-426.63. Sunset.**

32 This Part expires September 30, 2030."

33 **SECTION 1.(b)** All appointing authorities shall make appointments to the Black  
34 Women and Girls Task Force as provided by G.S. 143B-426.60(b) by October 1, 2021, and the  
35 terms of all members shall commence on October 1, 2021.

36 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
37 Administration the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for each year of the  
38 2021-2023 fiscal biennium in recurring funds for operation of the Black Women and Girls Task  
39 Force established in Section 1 of this act.

40 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2021.