

**Subject** Task force on prevention of female genital mutilation

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**Date** February 20, 2026

## Overview

This bill establishes a task force on prevention of female genital mutilation at the Department of Health and appropriates money for the task force.

## Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <p><b>Task force on prevention of female genital mutilation.</b></p> <p>Adds § 144.3875. Directs the commissioner of health, in consultation with the commissioner of public safety, to establish a task force on prevention of female genital mutilation. Requires the commissioner of health to appoint up to 15 members to the task force, and specifies qualifications of task force members. Requires initial members to be appointed by November 1, 2026, and requires the first meeting to be convened by January 1, 2027. Provides task force member terms, compensation, and removal are governed by section 15.059 (a general statute governing advisory councils and committees), and requires the task force to meet at least four times per year or more frequently at the call of the chair.</p> <p>Lists duties of the task force:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ developing strategies to provide accurate medical and legal information about female genital mutilation;</li><li>▪ raising public awareness about the harms caused by female genital mutilation;</li><li>▪ providing information on state laws that require reasonable efforts to provide culturally appropriate services to prevent removal of a child if the child's interests, health, and safety can be assured;</li><li>▪ improving data collection and coordination among law enforcement, state agencies, and local health departments;</li><li>▪ developing and recommending resources to protect children from female genital mutilation and support families; and</li><li>▪ other duties as determined by the task force.</li></ul> |
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Section	Description
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	Requires the commissioner to provide the task force with meeting space and administrative support, and requires the commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of public safety, to issue an annual report on task force activities.
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2	<b>Appropriation.</b>
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	Makes a blank appropriation in fiscal year 2027 from the general fund to the commissioner of health for the task force on prevention of female genital mutilation.
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