



STATE OF WASHINGTON

**Charter State of the Washington Tribal Opioid and Fentanyl Response Task Force**

*Adopted*

- I. **Purpose:** During the 2024 Washington State Legislative Session, funding to establish a Washington State Tribal Opioid and Fentanyl Taskforce was appropriated to:
- a. Convene the first Task Force meeting no later than August 1, 2024;
  - b. Convene one Tribal Opioid and Fentanyl Summit in 2025 to include state agencies identified in the proviso, federally Recognized Tribes in WA State, federally recognized Tribes in a state adjacent to WA, Urban Indian Organizations, and Tribal organizations;
  - c. Review the laws and policies related to opioid and fentanyl use, illicit sales of opioids and fentanyl, jurisdictional authority, Tribal exclusionary authority, and any related impacts affecting American Indian and Alaska Native people;
  - d. Develop recommendations including legislative and executive policy changes and budget initiatives for the purpose of addressing priority areas identified at the first annual Washington State Tribal opioid and fentanyl summit in May of 2023 in the overarching topic areas of justice, prevention/treatment/harm reduction/recovery, housing and houselessness, community and family services, as well as additional topic areas identified in subsequent summits;
  - e. The Task Force may invite and consult with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the offices of the United States attorneys, federally recognized Tribes in a state adjacent to Washington, Tribal organizations with specific expertise including but not limited to Tribal sovereignty, jurisdiction, cultural practices, and data, and any experts or professionals having expertise in the topics of prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and recovery support related to opioids and or fentanyl in federal, Tribal, and/or state jurisdiction;
  - f. The Task Force may create subgroups and work within existing state or Tribal work groups to develop recommendations to the task force in the topic areas; and
  - g. Submit a status report including any initial findings, recommendations, and progress updates to the governor and appropriate committees of the legislature by June 30, 2025.
- II. **Membership:**
- A. Generally. In accordance with the legislative proviso the Task Force has forty-nine (49) members as follows:
    1. **State Agencies:** One member of the executive leadership team from each of the following agencies: Department of Children, Youth, and Families; Department of Commerce; Department of Corrections; Department of Health; Department of Social and Health Services; Health Care Authority (HCA); Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; the Governor’s Office of Indian Affairs; and the Washington State Patrol.
    2. **Tribes:** One individual from each tribe in Washington State, designated by the tribal legislative body by resolution; if a Tribe elects not to appoint a member, the

seat will default to the Tribal Chair.

3. **Urban Indian Organizations:** The governor shall appoint one member from the Seattle Indian Health Board and one member from the NATIVE Project.
4. **Attorney General:** The Attorney General may appoint one representative from the Office of Attorney General
5. **Legislature:** The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from each of the two largest caucuses of the senate; the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from each of the two largest caucuses of the House.
6. **Lived Experience:** The governor shall appoint two Indigenous members that have lived experience related to opioids and/or fentanyl
7. **Local government:** The governor shall appoint two representatives of local government.
8. **Task Force Leadership:** The Task Force shall be co-chaired by one (1) legislative member and four (4) Tribal leaders selected at the first meeting.
9. **Changes to Membership.** Any designations or changes to designations must be delivered to the American Indian Health Commission.

### III. Meetings

**A. Action:** The Task Force will take action through Resolution? Majority Vote?

Whenever possible, decisions will be made by group consensus. In the event that consensus is not possible, a vote with a simple majority will suffice. Dissenting opinions will be noted. On issues not defined by proviso language, the task force shall consult with the Attorney General's Office for further interpretation. When consensus cannot be met, the opinion of the Attorney General's office shall control

- B. Frequency and Location:** The Task Force shall meet at least quarterly and be supported by the Commission. Members of the Task Force may participate in a meeting of members in person and/or by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment, including but not limited to online meetings, by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting.
- C. Minutes:** As the support agency for the Advisory Council, the Commission will be responsible for preparing the minutes of each meeting and distributing such minutes to members of the Task Force no later than one (1) week prior to the next Task Force meeting.

- D. Protocols:** During Task Force meetings, the following protocols will be adhered to:
1. Only the person recognized by the meeting co-chairs or meeting facilitator may speak at any given time;
  2. All comments will be made through the meeting chair or meeting facilitator;
  3. All comments will be confined to the current issue;
  4. Members will not engage in conversations that disrupt the meeting; and
  5. Members will respect one another, the sovereignty of tribal governments and the U.S. federal and state governments, and cultural difference.
- E. Voting by Members:** Each voting member of this Task Force shall, at every meeting of the members, be entitled to one vote in person, including online attendance, upon each subject properly submitted to vote.
- F. Quorum:**
- G. Manner of Acting:** The vote of a majority of the votes entitled to be cast by the members represented in person, including online participation, including online participation, at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be necessary for the adoption of any matter voted upon by the members, unless a greater proportion is required by applicable provisions of these Bylaws.
- H. Actions Regarding Sovereign Rights of Tribes:** All matters regarding the sovereign rights of Tribes must be determined by consensus among the Tribal delegates.
- I. Rules of Procedure:** All questions on rules of order in conducting Task Force meetings shall be determined in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order (11<sup>th</sup> edition).
- J. Schedule:** In each meeting, the Task Force shall establish the date, time, and place of the next two meetings.