

- 1 a. Two persons who are members of the Senate at the time of
- 2 appointment, at least one of whom represents the minority party.
- 3 b. A representative of the State Board of Education.
- 4 c. A classroom teacher, as recommended by the North Carolina
- 5 Association of Educators, teaching children who are deaf or hearing
- 6 impaired in traditional public school settings.
- 7 d. A school system superintendent, as recommended by the North
- 8 Carolina Association of School Administrators.
- 9 e. A local school board member, as recommended by the North
- 10 Carolina School Boards Association.
- 11 f. A representative of NC AG Bell.
- 12 g. A representative from the Eastern School for the Deaf.
- 13 h. A representative from the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention
- 14 Advisory Committee of the Division of Public Health.
- 15 i. A representative from Sertoma International.

16 The Task Force shall have two cochairs, one designated by the President Pro
17 Tempore of the Senate and one designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives
18 from among their appointees. The Task Force shall meet upon the call of the cochairs.
19 Vacancies shall be filled by the appointing authority. A quorum of the Task Force shall be a
20 majority of the members.

21 **SECTION 1.(c) Duties.** – The Task Force shall (i) serve as a resource for
22 legislators and State agencies involved in the education of children who are deaf or hearing
23 impaired and (ii) make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding the necessary
24 continuum of educational services, supports, and placements to ensure optimal educational
25 outcomes of children who are deaf or hearing impaired.

26 **SECTION 1.(d) Compensation; Administration.** – Members of the Task Force
27 shall receive subsistence and travel allowances at the rates set forth in G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, or
28 138-6, as appropriate. With the prior approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the
29 Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist in the work of
30 the Task Force. With the prior approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Task
31 Force may hold its meetings in the State Legislative Building or the Legislative Office
32 Building. The Task Force may also meet at various locations around the State in order to
33 promote greater public participation in its deliberations. The Task Force, while in the discharge
34 of its official duties, may exercise all the powers provided under the provisions of G.S. 120-19
35 and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4, including the power to request all officers, agents,
36 agencies, and departments of the State to provide any information, data, or documents within
37 their possession, ascertainable from their records or otherwise available to them, and the power
38 to subpoena witnesses.

39 **SECTION 1.(e) Report.** – The Task Force shall report its findings and
40 recommendations to the 2014 Regular Session of the 2013 General Assembly no later than
41 March 1, 2014, and to the 2015 General Assembly no later than January 15, 2015. The Task
42 Force shall terminate upon the filing of its final report.

43 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.