

1 (I) TWO MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY, ONE OF WHICH
2 SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR;

3 (J) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE; AND

4 (K) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE ASSEMBLY.

5 2. NO MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM HOLDING ANY
6 PUBLIC OFFICE OR EMPLOYMENT, NOR SHALL HE OR SHE FORFEIT ANY SUCH OFFICE
7 OF EMPLOYMENT BY VIRTUE OF HIS OR HER APPOINTMENT PURSUANT TO THIS
8 SECTION. MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL RECEIVE NO COMPENSATION FOR
9 THEIR SERVICES, BUT SHALL BE ALLOWED THEIR ACTUAL AND NECESSARY EXPENSES
10 INCURRED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR FUNCTIONS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.
11 A MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE MAY BE REMOVED BY THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY,
12 ONLY FOR GOOD CAUSE, AFTER NOTICE AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD.
13 VACANCIES SHALL BE FILLED IN THE SAME MANNER AS ORIGINAL APPOINTMENTS.

14 S 369-M. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE TASK FORCE. 1. ON AN ANNUAL BASIS,
15 THE TASK FORCE SHALL HOLD AT LEAST TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS. DURING THE
16 PUBLIC HEARINGS, THE TASK FORCE SHALL HEAR THE TESTIMONY OF VOLUNTARY
17 WITNESSES, MAY COMPEL THE TESTIMONY OF WITNESSES AND MAY REQUIRE THE
18 PRODUCTION OF ANY DOCUMENTS THE TASK FORCE DEEMS REASONABLY NECESSARY TO
19 CARRY OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES.

20 2. AFTER RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENT, THE TASK FORCE SHALL
21 ISSUE AN ANNUAL REPORT, TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE, ON THE
22 SUBSTANCE OF THE PUBLIC HEARINGS AND INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE
23 DEVELOPMENT OF NEW METHODS AND PROGRAMS AIMED AT ASSISTING THE STATE'S
24 VETERANS IN FINDING AND MAINTAINING MEANINGFUL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES,
25 AND AN ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT METHODS AND PROGRAMS. THE ANNUAL REPORT
26 SHALL BE ISSUED NO LATER THAN DECEMBER FIRST OF EACH YEAR, BUT SHALL NOT
27 BE DUE IN THE FIRST YEAR THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE TAKEN
28 EFFECT.

29 3. THE TASK FORCE SHALL REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS, AS THEY RELATE
30 TO AND IMPACT VETERAN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

31 (A) HIGHER EDUCATION, INCLUDING THE ABILITY TO AWARD ACADEMIC COURSE
32 CREDIT FOR COMPARABLE MILITARY TRAINING AND DISTANCE LEARNING BARRIERS;

33 (B) PROFESSIONAL LICENSING INCLUDING ANY RECOMMENDATIONS TO EASE
34 LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR VETERANS AND THEIR SPOUSES;

35 (C) STATE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES;

36 (D) VETERAN CONTRACTOR PREFERENCES;

37 (E) PURCHASING PREFERENCES;

38 (F) TAX CREDITS AND MUNICIPAL GRANTS FOR HIRING UNEMPLOYED VETERANS;

39 (G) PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES; AND

40 (H) PAID LEAVE FOR COMBAT VETERANS NEEDING HEALTH SERVICES.

41 4. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL PROHIBIT THE TASK FORCE FROM REPORT-
42 ING ON ANY OTHER TOPICS IMPACTING VETERAN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES,
43 WHICH THEY DEEM RELEVANT.

44 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be
45 deemed repealed ten years after such date.