

**As Introduced**

**129th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2011-2012**

**H. B. No. 68**

**Representative Burke**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Adams, J., Balderson, Combs, Derickson,  
Hackett, Huffman, Stebelton, Sears**

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**A B I L L**

To create the Ohio Council to Reform Behavioral 1  
Health Care. 2

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** (A) There is hereby created the Ohio Council to 3  
Reform Behavioral Health Care. The Council shall conduct a 4  
complete review of the state's behavioral health system and make 5  
recommendations for achieving comprehensive reform of, and cost 6  
containment within, the system. 7

(B) The Council shall consist of nine members. Not later than 8  
sixty days after the effective date of this section, the Governor, 9  
the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of 10  
Representatives shall each appoint three members. All members 11  
shall be selected for their expertise in the field of behavioral 12  
health care or for their experience as recipients of behavioral 13  
health care services. 14

Each member of the Council shall serve at the pleasure of the 15  
member's appointing authority. A vacancy shall be filled in the 16  
same manner as the original appointment. 17

A member shall serve without compensation, except to the 18

extent that serving on the Council is considered part of the 19  
member's regular duties of employment. 20

(C) Not later than thirty days after the original 21  
appointments to the Council are made, the Council shall convene 22  
its first meeting and elect from among its members a chairperson. 23  
The chairperson shall be responsible for convening all meetings 24  
and for keeping meeting attendance records and minutes. 25

A Council member may attend a Council meeting by 26  
participating in a conference call, but only if the purpose of the 27  
meeting is to gather information, there are no votes scheduled to 28  
be taken at the meeting, and a room is made available for the 29  
public to observe the meeting. By participating in the conference 30  
call, the member shall be considered present at the meeting. In 31  
the event that the Council finds it necessary to take a vote at 32  
the meeting, a member in attendance by conference call may not 33  
participate in the vote. 34

(D) The Department of Mental Health, the Department of 35  
Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, and the Department of Job and 36  
Family Services shall provide meeting space, staff services, and 37  
technical assistance as necessary for the Council to carry out its 38  
duties. To the extent possible, staff services and technical 39  
assistance shall be provided by individuals who are employees of 40  
the departments on the effective date of this section. 41

(E) Not later than January 1, 2012, the Council shall submit 42  
a written report of its findings and recommendations to the 43  
Governor and, in accordance with section 101.68 of the Revised 44  
Code, the General Assembly. On the submission of the report, the 45  
Council shall cease to exist. 46