NEW SECTION.  Sec. 952.  (1) The Washington state criminal sentencing task force is established.

(2) The task force is composed of members as provided in this subsection.

(a) The president of the senate shall appoint one member from each of the two largest caucuses of the senate.

(b) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint one member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of representatives.

(c) The president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives jointly shall appoint members representing the following:

(i) The office of the governor;

(ii) Caseload forecast council;

(iii) Department of corrections;

(iv) Sentencing guidelines commission;

(v) Statewide family council administered by the department of corrections;

(vi) Statewide reentry council;

(vii) Superior court judges' association;

(viii) Washington association of criminal defense attorneys or the Washington defender association;

(ix) Washington association of prosecuting attorneys;

(x) Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs;

(xi) Washington state association of counties;

(xii) Washington state minority and justice commission;

(xiii) A labor organization representing active law enforcement officers in Washington state;

(xiv) Two different community organizations representing the interests of incarcerated persons; and

(xv) Two different community organizations or other entities representing the interests of crime victims.

(3) The legislative membership shall convene the initial meeting of the task force no later than September 1, 2019. The membership shall select the task force's cochairs, which must include one legislator and one nonlegislative member.

(4) The task force shall review state sentencing laws, including a consideration of the report of the sentencing guidelines commission required by section 129, chapter 299, Laws of 2018. The task force shall develop recommendations for the purpose of:
(a) Reducing sentencing implementation complexities and errors;
(b) Improving the effectiveness of the sentencing system; and
(c) Promoting and improving public safety.

(5) The task force shall submit an initial report, including findings and recommendations, to the governor and the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 31, 2019. The task force shall submit a final report by December 31, 2020.

(6)(a) The William D. Ruckelshaus center shall administer and provide staff support and facilitation services to the task force. The center may, when deemed necessary by the task force, contract with one or more appropriate consultants to provide data analysis, research, and other services to the task force for the purposes provided in subsection (4) of this section.

(b) The caseload forecast council shall provide information, data analysis, and other necessary assistance upon the request of the task force.

(7) Legislative members of the task force are reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative members are not entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses if they are elected officials or are participating on behalf of an employer, governmental entity, or other organization. Any reimbursement for other nonlegislative members is subject to chapter 43.03 RCW.

(8) This section expires January 1, 2021.

Sec. 953. RCW 28B.20.476 and 2018 c 299 s 905 are each amended to read as follows:
The geoduck aquaculture research account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from any legislative appropriations, the aquaculture industry, or any other private or public source directed to the account must be deposited in the account. Expenditures from the account may only be used by the sea grant program for the geoduck research projects identified by RCW 28B.20.475. Only the president of the University of Washington or the president's designee may authorize expenditures from the account. The account is subject to the allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures. During the 2017-2019 and 2019-2021 fiscal ((biennium)) biennia, amounts available in the geoduck aquaculture research account may also be appropriated for the sea grant program at the University of Washington to conduct research examining the possible negative and