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By: **Eastern Shore Delegation, Southern Maryland Delegation, Western Maryland Delegation, and Harford County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2000

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

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CHAPTER 433

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Resource Based Industry in Maryland - Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force on Resource Based Industry in  
4 Maryland to examine the need for, and the feasibility of, establishing a certain  
5 financing development authority; requiring the Task Force to submit a certain  
6 report on or before a certain date; providing for the membership of the Task  
7 Force; requiring the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House  
8 jointly to appoint the co-chairs of the Task Force; requiring the Department of  
9 Legislative Services, in consultation with the Department of Business and  
10 Economic Development, to staff the Task Force; providing that a member of the  
11 Task Force may not be compensated but may receive travel expenses; and  
12 generally relating to establishing a Task Force on Resource Based Industry in  
13 Maryland.

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
15 MARYLAND, That:

16 (a) There is a Task Force on Resource Based Industry in Maryland.

17 (b) The Task Force shall consist of the following members:

18 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President  
19 of the Senate;

20 (2) two members of the Maryland House of Delegates, appointed by the  
21 Speaker of the House;

- 1           (3)     the Secretary of Business and Economic Development, or the  
2 Secretary's designee;
- 3           (4)     the Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee;
- 4           (5)     the Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary's designee;
- 5           (6)     the Director of the Maryland Cooperative Extension, or the Director's  
6 designee;
- 7           (7)     the Chair of the Forvm for Rural Maryland, or the Chair's designee;
- 8           (8)     the Chair of the Maryland Forestry Task Force, or the Chair's  
9 designee;
- 10          (9)     a representative of the Western Maryland "One Maryland" Task  
11 Force, selected by the members of the Western Maryland Task Force;
- 12          (10)    a representative of the Eastern Shore "One Maryland" Task Force,  
13 selected by the members of the Eastern Shore Task Force; and
- 14          (11)    five members appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and  
15 the Speaker of the House to represent each of the following rural industry sectors:
- 16               (i)     agriculture;
- 17               (ii)    forestry;
- 18               (iii)   fisheries;
- 19               (iv)    mineral extraction; and
- 20               (v)     rural commercial finance or lending.
- 21   (c)     The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall jointly  
22 designate two of the members as co-chairs of the Task Force.
- 23   (d)     The Task Force shall:
- 24           (1)     examine the need for, and the feasibility of, establishing a financing  
25 development authority to assist Maryland's farming, fishing, forestry, and mining  
26 extraction industries with loans, financing, training, and technical and business  
27 planning assistance services;
- 28           (2)     consider the types of loans, financing, training, technical and  
29 business planning assistance services, and other programs that a financing  
30 development authority should implement;
- 31           (3)     consider the amount in which a financing development authority  
32 should be funded;

1           (4)     consider whether the financing development authority should be an  
2 independent State government entity or be incorporated into an existing State  
3 government agency;

4           (5)     develop recommendations regarding the establishment of the  
5 financing development authority; and

6           (6)     report its recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with  
7 § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly on or before  
8 ~~November 1, 2001~~ December 1, 2000.

9       (e)     The Department of Legislative Services, in consultation with the  
10 Department of Business and Economic Development, shall provide staff support for  
11 the Task Force.

12       (f)     A member of the Task Force:

13           (1)     may not receive compensation; but

14           (2)     is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
15 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

16       SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
17 ~~October~~ July 1, 2000.