

HOUSE BILL 1
EMERGENCY BILL

Unofficial Copy
Q7

2002 Regular Session
(2lr1236)

ENROLLED BILL
-- Ways and Means/Budget and Taxation --

Introduced by **Delegates Hixson, Taylor, Arnick, Busch, Conway, Dewberry, Doory, Harrison, Howard, Hurson, Kopp, McIntosh, Menes, Montague, Owings, Rawlings, Rosenberg, Vallario, and Wood Wood, W. Baker, Barkley, Bobo, Burns, Cadden, Cane, Carlson, Crouse, C. Davis, DeCarlo, Donoghue, Dypski, Franchot, Frush, Fulton, Giannetti, Gladden, Goldwater, Healey, Hecht, Heller, Hubers, James, A. Jones, V. Jones, Kirk, Love, Mandel, McHale, Minnick, Moe, Parrott, Pitkin, Riley, Rosso, Rudolph, Shriver, Stern, Turner, Valderrama, and Weir**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, ____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER 343

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commission on Maryland's Fiscal Structure**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Commission on Maryland's Fiscal Structure;
4 requiring the Commission to review and evaluate the State's budget and fiscal
5 structure; requiring the Commission to make recommendations on changes to
6 the State budget process and the State tax structure; requiring the Commission
7 to make recommendations on methods to address certain funding needs for
8 education, transportation, and health care and for addressing inefficiencies and
9 improvements in State government services and operations; providing for the
10 membership of the Commission; requiring an interim report by a certain date;

1 providing for the staffing of the Commission; requiring a final report by a
2 certain date; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to
3 the Commission on Maryland's Fiscal Structure.

4 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
5 MARYLAND, That:

6 (a) There is a Commission on Maryland's Fiscal Structure.

7 (b) The Commission shall review and evaluate the State's current budget and
8 fiscal structure and make recommendations for:

9 (1) changes to the State budget process ~~and procedures~~, Spending
10 Affordability process, and Capital Debt Affordability process that would allow for
11 more effective development and enactment of the annual State budget;

12 (2) ensuring that the State will have a progressive tax structure through
13 examination of the income, sales, property, excise, and business taxes, including any
14 changes that may be necessary to ensure equity and efficiency in the State's tax
15 system;

16 (3) methods to address funding sources for the education needs outlined
17 in the report of the Commission on Education Finance, Equity, and Excellence, the
18 transportation needs outlined in the report of the Commission on Transportation
19 Investment, and the health care funding needs outlined in recent years;

20 (4) addressing inefficiencies in and improvements to State government
21 services and operations; and

22 (3) ~~new State and local revenue sources that may be considered in future~~
23 ~~years; and~~

24 (4) (5) changes to the State's tax structure that would allow the State
25 to be more competitive with surrounding states regarding economic development.

26 (c) The Commission shall be composed of ~~45~~ 17 members as follows:

27 (1) a chairman appointed by the Governor;

28 (2) ~~two~~ four members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee,
29 appointed by the President of the Senate;

30 (3) two members of the House Committee on Ways and Means, appointed
31 by the Speaker of the House of Delegates;

32 (4) two members of the House Appropriations Committee, appointed by
33 the Speaker of the House of Delegates;

34 (5) the Comptroller of the Treasury;

- 1 (6) the Secretary of the Department of Business and Economic
2 Development;
- 3 (7) the Director of the Department of Assessments and Taxation;
- 4 (6) a representative of the Maryland Association of Counties;
- 5 (7) a representative of the Maryland Municipal League;
- 6 (8) the Superintendent of the State Department of Education;
- 7 (9) the Secretary of the Department of Transportation;
- 8 (10) the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management; and
- 9 (8) a representative of the Maryland Chamber of Commerce; and
- 10 (9) a representative of the Maryland Association of Nonprofit
11 Organizations; and
- 12 (11) (9) (10) two ~~four~~ three members of the public, appointed by the
13 Governor.

14 (d) The Department of Legislative Services, the Department of Business and
15 Economic Development, and the Comptroller of the Treasury shall provide staff
16 support to the Commission.

17 (e) The Commission shall submit a an interim report of its preliminary
18 findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of
19 the State Government Article, to the General Assembly by ~~November 1, 2003~~
20 December 15, 2002.

21 (f) The Commission shall submit a final report of its findings and
22 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
23 Government Article, to the General Assembly by September 1, 2003.

24 ~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take~~
25 ~~effect July 1, 2002.~~

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an
27 emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health
28 or safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the
29 members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take
30 effect from the date it is enacted.

