

By: **Delegates Smigiel, Boschert, Cluster, Costa, Cryor, Dwyer, Haddaway, Kach, Nathan-Pulliam, Petzold, Sossi, and Taylor**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2005

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Indoor Air Quality in Educational Institutions**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force on Indoor Air Quality in Educational  
4 Institutions; providing for certain membership, duties, and staffing of the Task  
5 Force; providing for the designation of the chair of the Task Force; requiring the  
6 Task Force to issue a certain report by a certain date; prohibiting a member of  
7 the Task Force from receiving certain compensation; prohibiting a member of  
8 the Task Force from participating in certain activities of the Task Force under  
9 certain circumstances; authorizing a member of the Task Force to receive  
10 certain reimbursements; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally  
11 relating to the Task Force on Indoor Air Quality in Educational Institutions.

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
13 MARYLAND, That:

14 (a) There is a Task Force on Indoor Air Quality in Educational Institutions.

15 (b) The Task Force consists of the following twenty-four members:

16 (1) Two members of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker of  
17 the House;

18 (2) Two members of the Senate of Maryland appointed by the President  
19 of the Senate;

20 (3) The Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary's designee;

21 (4) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's  
22 designee;

23 (5) The Chancellor of the University System of Maryland, or the  
24 Chancellor's designee;

25 (6) The State Superintendent of Schools; and

26 (7) Sixteen members appointed by the Governor as follows:

1 (i) Two representatives of the heating, ventilation, and  
2 air-conditioning (HVAC) repair industries;

3 (ii) Two representatives of not-for-profit organizations that focus  
4 on indoor air quality and related health issues;

5 (iii) One representative from the Johns Hopkins School of Public  
6 Health;

7 (iv) One representative of local government;

8 (v) Two representatives of county school boards;

9 (vi) One representative of a private noncollegiate educational  
10 institution certified by the State Board of Education;

11 (vii) One representative of a noncollegiate educational institution  
12 operated by a bona fide church organization;

13 (viii) Two members of the Maryland Higher Education Commission;

14 (ix) Two citizens affected by HVAC-related illnesses caused by  
15 HVAC systems in educational institutions in the State;

16 (x) One physician representative of the Maryland College of  
17 Occupational and Environmental Medicine with credentials and experience in the  
18 evaluation and treatment of illnesses related to indoor air quality; and

19 (xi) One person with expertise in architecture or building design  
20 and engineering.

21 (c) The Governor shall designate the Chair of the Task Force.

22 (d) The Task Force shall:

23 (1) Study the nature, location, and extent of health and environmental  
24 risks posed to students and employees of educational institutions as a result of molds,  
25 spores, and other toxic organisms located in the HVAC systems of public and private  
26 educational institutions in Maryland, including:

27 (i) The relative risks associated with the manufacture,  
28 maintenance, and repair of HVAC systems in educational institutions; and

29 (ii) Actual and projected costs for the medical treatment of  
30 HVAC-related illnesses caused by HVAC systems in educational institutions in the  
31 State;

32 (2) Make recommendations regarding:

1 (i) The prevention of HVAC-related illnesses, including a  
2 monitoring program to identify the probable onset of HVAC-related illnesses and  
3 their underlying causes;

4 (ii) The use of appropriate remedies and controls in educational  
5 institutions, including the best available treatment technology and voluntary  
6 prevention and pollution reduction programs;

7 (iii) A plan to provide information and warnings to affected  
8 students, students' families, and employees of educational institutions regarding  
9 health and environmental risks associated with the indoor air quality of their sites;  
10 and

11 (iv) Legislative or regulatory measures that are necessary and  
12 appropriate to address current gaps in federal, State, and local protection of students  
13 and employees of educational institutions from HVAC-borne toxins; and

14 (3) Submit a final report of its findings and recommendations to the  
15 Governor, and subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General  
16 Assembly, on or before July 1, 2006.

17 (e) State agencies represented on the Task Force shall provide staff support  
18 for the Task Force.

19 (f) A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation for serving on  
20 the Task Force, but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard  
21 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

22 (g) A member of the Task Force who misses two meetings of the Task Force  
23 may not participate in any decision-making processes or recommendations of the  
24 Task Force.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 July 1, 2005. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the  
27 end of July 31, 2006, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this  
28 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.