
By: **Delegate C. Davis**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2005

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Reorganization of the Department of Health and**
3 **Mental Hygiene**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study the Reorganization of the
5 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; providing for the membership,
6 chair, and staff for the Task Force; providing that a member of the Task Force
7 may receive certain reimbursement as provided in the State budget; providing
8 for the duties of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to submit a certain
9 report on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and
10 generally relating to the Task Force to Study the Reorganization of the
11 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

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

14 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Reorganization of the Department of
15 Health and Mental Hygiene.

16 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

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

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

21 (3) three representatives from the Department of Health and Mental
22 Hygiene, appointed by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene;

23 (4) one representative from the Department of Budget and Management,
24 appointed by the Secretary of Budget and Management;

25 (5) one local health officer, appointed by the Department of Health and
26 Mental Hygiene;

27 (6) one representative from the Association of Maryland Hospitals and
28 Health Systems;

- 1 (7) one representative from the Mental Health Association of Maryland;
- 2 (8) one representative of the Maryland Association of Nonprofit
3 Organizations;
- 4 (9) one individual with expertise in reorganization of State agencies,
5 appointed by the Department of Budget and Management;
- 6 (10) one representative from the Developmental Disabilities Coalition of
7 Maryland;
- 8 (11) the Special Secretary for Children, Youth, and Families, or the
9 Special Secretary's designee;
- 10 (12) one representative from the Department of Disabilities;
- 11 (13) one representative from the American Federation of State, County
12 and Municipal Employees;
- 13 (14) one representative from the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of
14 Maryland;
- 15 (15) one representative from the State's public academic health center;
- 16 (16) one representative from Mid-Atlantic LifeSpan;
- 17 (17) one representative from the Maryland Nurses Association;
- 18 (18) one representative from the Health Facilities Association of
19 Maryland;
- 20 (19) one representative from the Advocates for Children and Youth;
- 21 (20) one representative from the Maryland Association of Adult Day
22 Services; and
- 23 (21) one representative from a HealthChoice managed care organization,
24 appointed by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- 25 (c) The chair shall be elected from among its members.
- 26 (d) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates
27 shall jointly designate the chair of the Task Force.
- 28 (e) A member of the Task Force:
- 29 (1) may not receive compensation; but
- 30 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
31 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

1 (f) The Department of Legislative Services shall staff the Task Force.

2 (g) The Task Force shall:

3 (1) study ways to improve the delivery of health and mental health
4 services to residents of the State;

5 (2) study the structure of the Department of Health and Mental
6 Hygiene, including the effects of moving the following programs out of the
7 Department:

8 (i) the Developmental Disabilities Administration;

9 (ii) the Mental Hygiene Administration; and

10 (iii) the Maryland Medical Assistance Program;

11 (3) examine the following areas in the Department of Health and Mental
12 Hygiene:

13 (i) the financing of the health care delivery system;

14 (ii) program and service delivery;

15 (iii) the review and application of quality assurance standards and
16 regulation implementation; and

17 (iv) administrative and operational support;

18 (4) examine the organization and structure of health departments in
19 other states; and

20 (5) study any other issue that the Task Force deems appropriate to the
21 reorganization of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

22 (h) The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the
23 Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General
24 Assembly on or before December 1, 2006.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 October 1, 2005. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 3 months and, at
27 the end of December 31, 2006, with no further action required by the General
28 Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.