
By: **Delegates Glassman and Sossi**

Introduced and read first time: February 22, 2006

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Review the Property Tax Assessment Appeals Process**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Review the Property Tax Assessment
4 Appeals Process; establishing the composition of the Task Force; requiring the
5 Governor to designate the chair of the Task Force; authorizing the Task Force to
6 establish certain subcommittees; providing for the staffing for the Task Force;
7 prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation,
8 but authorizing a member of the Task Force to receive certain reimbursements;
9 requiring the Task Force to conduct certain studies and make certain
10 evaluations and recommendations; requiring that the Task Force be formed by a
11 certain date; requiring that the Task Force issue a final report by a certain date;
12 providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task
13 Force to Review the Property Tax Assessment Appeals Process.

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

16 (a) There is a Task Force to Review the Property Tax Assessment Appeals
17 Process.

18 (b) The Task Force shall be composed of the following members:

19 (1) three members from the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
20 President of the Senate;

21 (2) three members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
22 of the House;

23 (3) two representatives of the State Department of Assessments and
24 Taxation, designated by the Director of Assessments and Taxation;

25 (4) two citizens of Maryland, appointed by the Governor, in consultation
26 with the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House; and

27 (5) one member from the real estate community, appointed by the
28 Governor, in consultation with the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the
29 House.

1 (c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

2 (d) The Task Force may establish subcommittees as it determines necessary to
3 fulfill its duties.

4 (e) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff support for the
5 Task Force.

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

9 (g) The Task Force shall:

10 (1) study the current three-step process by which a property owner may
11 appeal a property assessment or reassessment for property taxation purposes;

12 (2) evaluate the effectiveness of the current process, taking into account
13 the ease of access, degree of transparency, and difficulty navigating the process; and

14 (3) recommend necessary process or procedural updates based upon Task
15 Force findings.

16 (h) The Task Force shall:

17 (1) be appointed and organize and begin its study and deliberations on or
18 before August 1, 2006; and

19 (2) submit a final report of its findings and recommendations to the
20 Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the
21 General Assembly on or before December 1, 2006.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
23 June 1, 2006. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of May 31,
24 2007, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
25 abrogated and of no further force and effect.