

CHAPTER 140

(House Bill 438)

AN ACT concerning

Joint Information Technology and Biotechnology Committee – Membership and Duties

FOR the purpose of codifying and renaming the Joint Technology Oversight Committee to be the Joint Information Technology and Biotechnology Committee; modifying the membership and duties of the Committee; and generally relating to the Joint Information Technology and Biotechnology Committee.

BY repealing

Chapter 11 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2000
Section 6

BY adding to

Article – State Government
Section 2–10A–13
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2004 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Chapter 11 of the Acts of 2000

[SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

- (a) There is a Joint Technology Oversight Committee.
- (b) The Committee consists of the following ten members:
 - (1) five members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate; and
 - (2) five members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker.
- (c) The members of the Committee serve at the pleasure of the presiding officer who appointed them.

(d) The President and the Speaker shall jointly appoint a Senator and a Delegate to serve as co-chairmen who shall alternate in serving as the presiding chairman of the Committee each year.

(e) (1) The Committee shall:

(i) review the implementation of the Maryland Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act in this State; and

(ii) recommend to the Governor and the General Assembly any appropriate changes in State law based on the findings of the Committee.

(2) The Committee may examine and evaluate additional technology related issues as designated by the co-chairmen of the Committee.

(f) The Committee shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the Legislative Policy Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, and the House Economic Matters Committee on or before December 1 of each year.]

Article – State Government

2-10A-13.

(A) THERE IS A JOINT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE.

(B) THE COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING 12 MEMBERS:

(1) SIX MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND, APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE; AND

(2) SIX MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE.

(C) THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE PRESIDING OFFICER WHO APPOINTED THEM.

(D) THE PRESIDENT AND THE SPEAKER SHALL APPOINT JOINTLY A SENATOR AND A DELEGATE TO SERVE AS COCHAIRS WHO SHALL ALTERNATE IN SERVING AS THE PRESIDING CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE EACH YEAR.

(E) (1) THE COMMITTEE SHALL:

~~(I) WORK TO BROADEN THE SUPPORT, KNOWLEDGE, AND AWARENESS OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES THAT CAN TO BENEFIT THE PEOPLE OF MARYLAND;~~

~~(II) SUPPORT EXISTING COMMITTEES AND MEMBERS WITH RESPONSIBILITIES RELEVANT TO THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES;~~

~~(III) ACT AS A LIAISON WITH EXECUTIVE BRANCH BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS ON ISSUES RELATED TO THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES;~~

~~(IV) PROVIDE AN EDUCATIONAL FORUM WHERE IDEAS AND ISSUES INVOLVING THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES WILL BE EXCHANGED; AND~~

~~(V) SUPPORT INITIATIVES, INCLUDING INITIATIVES IN EDUCATION AT ALL LEVELS, THAT FOSTER:~~

~~1. THE APPLICATION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY ADVANCES TO THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS IN MARYLAND; AND~~

~~2. GOVERNMENT POLICIES TO PROMOTE OPPORTUNITIES FOR GOOD PAYING JOBS FOR RESIDENTS OF MARYLAND IN THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES.~~

(2) THE COMMITTEE MAY EXAMINE AND EVALUATE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY- OR BIOTECHNOLOGY-RELATED ISSUES AS DESIGNATED BY THE COCHAIRS OF THE COMMITTEE.

(F) THE COMMITTEE SHALL REPORT ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THIS TITLE, THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE, THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, AND THE HOUSE ECONOMIC MATTERS COMMITTEE ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2009.

Approved by the Governor, April 14, 2009.