

HOUSE BILL 524

P3

1lr2163

By: **Delegates Clagett and James**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2011

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Review State Regulations**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Review State Regulations; providing
4 for the membership, purposes, and staffing of the Task Force; requiring the
5 Governor to designate the chair of the Task Force; providing for the staffing of
6 the Task Force; prohibiting members of the Task Force from receiving certain
7 compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses;
8 requiring the Task Force to study certain matters; requiring the Task Force to
9 report to certain persons by a certain date; providing for the termination of this
10 Act; and generally relating to a Task Force to Review State Regulations.

11 Preamble

12 WHEREAS, Some business sectors and industries in the State face a significant
13 number of regulatory requirements, and some of these requirements may be
14 redundant, inconsistent, or overlapping; and

15 WHEREAS, Greater coordination across the units of State government could
16 reduce unnecessary burdens on business and industry and thereby reduce their costs
17 and simplify and harmonize the regulations affecting them; and

18 WHEREAS, When developing regulatory actions and identifying appropriate
19 approaches to address important public concerns it is in the public interest that the
20 units of State government attempt to promote coordination, simplification, and
21 harmonization of regulatory requirements affecting business and industry; and

22 WHEREAS, It also is imperative that each unit of State government endeavor
23 to identify ways to achieve important regulatory goals while at the same time fostering
24 innovation; now, therefore,

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3 (a) There is a Task Force to Review State Regulations.

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

5 (1) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
6 of the House;

7 (2) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
8 President of the Senate;

9 (3) the following members, appointed by the Governor, chosen from a
10 list of five individuals recommended by the designated entities:

11 (i) a representative of the Maryland Chamber of Commerce;

12 (ii) a representative of the Greater Baltimore Committee;

13 (iii) a representative of the Greater Washington Board of Trade;

14 (iv) a representative of the National Federation of Independent
15 Business; and

16 (v) two representatives of Maryland State and District of
17 Columbia AFL–CIO;

18 (4) seven other individuals representing a broad spectrum of the
19 public, including business and industry leaders and citizens organizations, appointed
20 by the Governor; and

21 (5) as ex officio members, an individual representing each of the
22 principal departments of the Executive Branch of the State government as specified
23 under § 8–201 of the State Government Article, designated by the head of that
24 principal department.

25 (c) The Governor shall appoint the chair of the Task Force from among its
26 members.

27 (d) The Department of Business and Economic Development shall coordinate
28 with the head of the other principal departments in the Executive Branch of the State
29 government to provide staff support to the Task Force.

30 (e) A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation for serving on
31 the Commission, but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
32 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

1 (f) The Task Force shall:

2 (1) examine the regulatory actions of the units of State government to
3 identify steps the units might take to promote better coordination, simplification, and
4 harmonization of State regulations;

5 (2) identify actions that the units of State government might take to
6 achieve regulatory goals while at the same time promote innovation;

7 (3) consistent with State regulatory objectives, identify and suggest
8 regulatory approaches that may reduce burdens and maintain flexibility and freedom
9 of choice for the public; and

10 (4) consider how units of State government might best periodically
11 undertake a retrospective analysis of its regulations to determine whether a
12 regulation should be modified in some way or repealed because it is outmoded,
13 ineffective, insufficient, or unnecessarily burdensome.

14 (g) On or before December 31, 2011, the Task Force shall submit a report of
15 its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the
16 State Government Article, the General Assembly.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 June 1, 2011. It shall remain effective for a period of one year and, at the end of May
19 31, 2012, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
20 abrogated and of no further force and effect.