

HB0572/484262/1

BY: Appropriations Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 572

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike lines 1 and 2 in their entirety and substitute “Task Force to Study Retirement Benefits for Public Officials”; and strike in their entirety lines 4 through 21, inclusive, and substitute:

“FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Retirement Benefits for Public Officials; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the Joint Committee on Pensions on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Retirement Benefits for Public Officials.

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

(a) There is a Task Force to Study Retirement Benefits for Public Officials.

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

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

(Over)

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

(3) the Executive Director of the State Retirement Agency or the Executive Director's designee;

(4) the Executive Director of the State Ethics Commission, or the Executive Director's designee;

(5) one member of the Board of Governors of the Maryland State Bar Association, appointed by the President of the Maryland State Bar Association;

(6) one representative of the Maryland Attorney General's Office, appointed by the Attorney General;

(7) the Executive Director of the Maryland Association of Counties, or the Executive Director's designee; and

(8) the Executive Director of the Maryland Municipal League, or the Executive Director's designee.

(c) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House jointly shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

(d) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff for the Task Force.

(e) A member of the Task Force:

(1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

(2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(f) The Task Force shall:

(1) study the possible forfeiture or suspension of retirement benefits for public officials when charged with or convicted of a criminal act, including:

(i) the circumstances under which retirement benefits should be subject to forfeiture or suspension;

(ii) the public officials that should be subject to possible forfeiture or suspension of benefits;

(iii) the process for making a determination to suspend or forfeit retirement benefits; and

(iv) the process for notifying the appropriate agency if a determination is made to suspend or forfeit retirement benefits; and

(2) make recommendations regarding the forfeiture or suspension of retirement benefits for public officials charged with or convicted of a criminal act.

(g) On or before November 30, 2012, the Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the Joint Committee on Pensions, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 2 through 4, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 1 on page 2 through line 15 on page 4, inclusive.

(Over)

On page 4, in line 16, strike “4.” and substitute “2.”; and in line 17, after “2012.” insert “It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2014, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.