

HOUSE BILL 1193

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By: Delegates Smigiel, Afzali, Anderson, Bohanan, Branch, Braveboy, Burns, Cardin, Carr, Carter, Clippinger, Conaway, Gaines, Glass, Glenn, Gutierrez, Haddaway–Ricchio, Holmes, Howard, Jacobs, Kaiser, K. Kelly, Kipke, Kramer, Luedtke, McConkey, McDermott, McHale, A. Miller, Minnick, Mitchell, Mizeur, Myers, Nathan–Pulliam, Oaks, Otto, Pena–Melnyk, Proctor, Ready, B. Robinson, Schulz, Simmons, Stein, Stocksdale, Swain, F. Turner, Valderrama, Waldstreicher, Walker, and A. Washington

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2014

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Implementation of Strategies for Preventing Sexual**
3 **Exploitation of Clients by Health Professionals**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Implementation of Strategies
5 for Preventing Sexual Exploitation of Clients by Health Professionals; providing
6 for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member
7 of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the
8 reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make
9 recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report
10 its findings and recommendations to the Governor and certain committees of
11 the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination
12 of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Implementation of
13 Strategies for Preventing Sexual Exploitation of Clients by Health
14 Professionals.

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

17 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Implementation of Strategies for
18 Preventing Sexual Exploitation of Clients by Health Professionals.

19 (b) The Task Force consists of the following 21 members:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

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

5 (3) the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's
6 designee;

7 (4) The Attorney General, or the Attorney General's designee; and

8 (5) the following 15 members, appointed by the Governor:

9 (i) three health care consumers with specialized or personal
10 knowledge of or experience with the problem of sexual exploitation of clients by health
11 professionals;

12 (ii) two representatives of the religious community of the State;
13 and

14 (iii) one representative of each of the following professions,
15 recommended to the Governor by the appropriate State professional association, with
16 knowledge of and concern for the problem of sexual exploitation of clients by health
17 professionals: medicine, psychiatry, nursing, professional counseling and therapy,
18 psychology, physical therapy, social work, chiropractic, massage therapy, and
19 dentistry.

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

21 (d) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall provide staff for the
22 Task Force.

23 (e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

27 (f) The Task Force shall:

28 (1) study the extent to which the recommendations in the report of the
29 Maryland Task Force to Study Health Professional–Client Sexual Exploitation, issued
30 on January 1, 1996, have been implemented; and

31 (2) study and make recommendations regarding:

1 (i) statutory, regulatory, or programmatic changes needed to
2 implement the recommendations of the 1996 Task Force report that have not been
3 implemented;

4 (ii) additional actions that professional associations, health care
5 institutions, religious institutions, and consumer groups can take to effectuate the
6 recommendations of the 1996 Task Force report; and

7 (iii) any issues not addressed in the 1996 Task Force report
8 relating to prevention, education, and survivor recovery.

9 (g) On or before December 1, 2014, the Task Force shall report its findings
10 and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
11 Government Article, the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
12 Committee and the House Government Operations Committee.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 June 1, 2014. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of May 31,
15 2015, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
16 abrogated and of no further force and effect.