HOUSE BILL 738

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CF SB 493

By: **Delegates Branch, Arora, Braveboy, Cardin, Conway, Cullison, DeBoy, Donoghue, Dumais, Fraser–Hidalgo, Gilchrist, Glenn, Guzzone, Hixson, Hogan, Howard, Hucker, Ivey, A. Kelly, Kramer, Lee, Luedtke, Morhaim, Niemann, Pena–Melnyk, Reznik, B. Robinson, Rosenberg, Serafini, Simmons, Summers, Walker, A. Washington, and Zucker**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2014
Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Economic Development – Commission on Maryland's Future

FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission on Maryland's Future; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Commission; prohibiting a member of the Commission from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the chair of the Commission to call the first meeting on or before a certain date; authorizing the chair to call certain additional meetings; requiring the Commission to hold certain public hearings; requiring the Commission to study and make recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Commission to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Commission on Maryland's Future.

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

(a) There is a Commission on Maryland's Future.

(b) The Commission consists of the following members:

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

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

EXPLANATION: **CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**
[Brackets**]** indicate matter deleted from existing law.

(3) the Secretary of Business and Economic Development, or the Secretary's designee;

(4) the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, or the Secretary's designee; and

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

(i) two members of organized labor unions;

(ii) two members representing industry, including one representing large industry and one representing small industry, at least one of whom represents a manufacturing concern;

(iii) one representative of a military installation located in the State;

(iv) one representative of an educational institution;

(v) one representative of an environmental organization;

(vi) one representative of a community organization concerned with defense transitions;

(vii) one representative of a veterans' group;

(viii) one representative of an organization that provides nongovernmental support to the unemployed and underemployed;

(ix) one representative of a nonprofit organization that is specifically involved with economic matters in the State; and

(x) one representative who has a national reputation in defense diversification, specifically related to reindustrialization and sustainable economic development.

(c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Commission.

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

(e) A member of the Commission:

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

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

(f) (1) The chair of the Commission shall call the first meeting of the Commission on or before June 30, 2014.

(2) The chair of the Commission may call additional meetings of the Commission as necessary.

(g) The Commission shall:

(1) hold at least three public hearings, each of which shall include a 3–month public comment period following the hearing; and

(2) study and develop recommendations to address the economic renewal of Maryland, specifically focusing on adjustment strategies to address a draw down in federal defense, particularly those strategies noted as especially effective by the Office of Economic Adjustment of the United States Department of Defense, including:

(i) building local capacity and a commitment to change;

(ii) developing strategies that support multiple economic drivers to replace lost defense jobs, especially in the environmental, green energy, and disaster resilience areas; and

(iii) assisting smaller firms and subcontractors that may have a strong interest in pursuing new markets or diversification opportunities.

(h) On or before June 1, 2015, the Commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2014. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 1 month and, at the end of June 30, 2016, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.