

HOUSE BILL 922

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CF SB 857

By: **Delegates Luedtke, Haynes, A. Kelly, Mitchell, and Zucker**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2014

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Task Force to Study a Funding Formula for Corollary Athletic Programs

FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study a Funding Formula for Corollary Athletic Programs; 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 Governor and certain legislative committees on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study a Funding Formula for Corollary Athletic Programs.

Preamble

WHEREAS, In 2008 the General Assembly enacted the Fitness and Athletic Equity Law for Students with Disabilities Act; and

WHEREAS, Corollary Athletic Programs in the State are programs designed to combine groups of students with and without disabilities together in physical activity in accordance with the Fitness and Athletic Equity Law for Students with Disabilities Act; and

WHEREAS, Each local school system is required to develop a plan, policies, and procedures to promote and protect the inclusion of students with disabilities in school athletic programs; and

WHEREAS, Each local school system is required to provide students with disabilities equivalent opportunities for participation in either the Interscholastic Athletic Program or the Corollary Athletic Program; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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WHEREAS, Corollary Athletic Programs are required to provide for the diversity of abilities and interests of students with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Each local school system is required to offer a Corollary Athletic Program in each of the fall, winter, and spring seasons; and

WHEREAS, Currently there is no funding for Corollary Athletic Programs in the State; and

WHEREAS, Certain organizations provide staffing and facilities for Corollary Athletic Program teams; and

WHEREAS, Certain organizations that provide staffing and facilities for the Corollary Athletic Programs are not reimbursed for their expenses; now, therefore,

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

(a) There is a Task Force to Study a Funding Formula for Corollary Athletic Programs.

(b) The Task Force consists of the following 14 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;

(3) the Assistant Superintendent of the Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services or the Assistant Superintendent's designee; and

(4) the following nine members, appointed by the Governor:

(i) one representative of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education;

(ii) one representative of the Public Schools Superintendents Association;

(iii) two representatives of the Special Olympics of Maryland, one of whom is a coach;

(iv) one representative of the ARC of Maryland;

(v) two local school system athletic directors;

(vi) one physical education teacher in a public school, recommended by the State Education Association; and

(vii) one adaptive physical education teacher in a public school, recommended by the State Department of Education.

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

(d) The State Department of Education 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 study and make recommendations regarding a funding formula for Corollary Athletic Programs and the organizations providing staffing and facilities for these programs.

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

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