

# HOUSE BILL 354

L1, P1

(5lr1257)

## ENROLLED BILL

— *Environment and Transportation/Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs* —

Introduced by **Calvert County Delegation**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker.

### CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Calvert County – Task Force to Study the Commemoration of Harriet Elizabeth**  
3 **Brown**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study the Commemoration of Harriet  
5 Elizabeth Brown; providing for the composition ~~and chair, chair, and staff~~ of the Task  
6 Force; ~~prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation,~~  
7 ~~but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses;~~ requiring the Task Force to  
8 study, hold public hearings, and make recommendations regarding certain matters;  
9 requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to *the County*  
10 *Commissioners of Calvert County*, the Governor, and to the General Assembly on or  
11 before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating  
12 to the Task Force to Study the Commemoration of Harriet Elizabeth Brown.

13 Preamble

---

#### EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

*Italics* indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



## HOUSE BILL 354

1 WHEREAS, Harriet Elizabeth Brown worked as a teacher and principal at the Mt.  
2 Hope Elementary School in Calvert County from 1931 to 1973; and

3 WHEREAS, During the period of racially segregated education, Ms. Brown became  
4 aware that African American teachers were paid significantly less than their white  
5 counterparts with the same level of education and experience; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1937, Ms. Brown enlisted the aid of a young attorney named  
7 Thurgood Marshall, then special counsel for the NAACP, to challenge the inequity of  
8 separate pay scales for public school teachers based on race; and

9 WHEREAS, The landmark case was settled in Ms. Brown's favor by the Calvert  
10 County Board of Education on December 27, 1937, and was a turning point for salary  
11 equalization in the State of Maryland; and

12 WHEREAS, Harriet Elizabeth Brown, a civil rights pioneer and long-time resident  
13 of Calvert County and the State of Maryland, died on January 1, 2009, at the age of 101;  
14 now, therefore,

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

17 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Commemoration of Harriet Elizabeth  
18 Brown.

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

20 (1) the Chair of the Calvert County Commission for Women;

21 (2) one member of the County Commissioners of Calvert County, appointed  
22 by the County Commissioners;

23 (3) the Superintendent of the Calvert County Public School System, or the  
24 Superintendent's designee; and

25 (4) the following members, appointed by the Calvert County Delegation to  
26 the General Assembly:

27 ~~(4) (i) one representative of the Calvert County NAACP, appointed by~~  
28 ~~the Calvert County Delegation to the General Assembly;~~

29 ~~(5) (ii) one representative of the Calvert County Historical Society,~~  
30 ~~appointed by the Calvert County Delegation to the General Assembly;~~

31 ~~(6) (iii) one member of the House of Delegates who represents Calvert~~  
32 ~~County, appointed by the Calvert County House Delegation; or the Delegate's designee; and~~  
33 ~~and~~

1           ~~(7)~~ *(iv)* one member of the Senate of Maryland who represents Calvert  
2 County, ~~appointed by the Calvert County Senators; and or the Senator's designee.~~

3           ~~(8)~~ ~~the Secretary of General Services, or the Secretary's designee.~~

4           (c) The Chair of the Calvert County Commission for Women shall be the chair of  
5 the Task Force.

6           ~~(d) A member of the Task Force:~~

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

8           ~~(2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State~~  
9 ~~Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget~~ The staff of the Calvert County  
10 Delegation to the General Assembly shall provide staff to the Task Force.

11          (e) The Task Force shall:

12           (1) study and make recommendations on the commemoration of Harriet  
13 Elizabeth Brown, such as renaming ~~a State building or designating a State roadway~~ an  
14 elementary or secondary school, a building connected with an institution of higher  
15 education, a school board facility, or any other education-related center or building located  
16 in Calvert County in honor of Harriet Elizabeth Brown;

17           ~~(2)~~ *(2)* consider in its recommendation an appropriate way to commemorate  
18 Harriet Elizabeth Brown given her legacy as an educator and the region in which she resided  
19 from 1937 through the remainder of her life;

20           ~~(3)~~ *(3)* hold public hearings to gather public input and recommendations; and

21           ~~(4)~~ *(4)* consider the cost-effectiveness of its findings before making its  
22 recommendations.

23          (f) On or before December 31, 2015, the Task Force shall report its findings and  
24 recommendations to the County Commissioners of Calvert County, the Governor, and, in  
25 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

26          SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
27 1, 2015. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2016,  
28 with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and  
29 of no further force and effect.