

SB0485/347677/1

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 485
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike “Labor and Employment –” and substitute “Task Force to Study”; strike line 3 in its entirety; and in line 4, after “of” insert “establishing the Task Force to Study Family and Medical Leave Insurance; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; requiring that the appointed members of the Task Force be appointed by a certain date; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Commission for Women to apply for certain funding; requiring the Task Force to receive certain public testimony and study and make recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act;”.

On pages 1 and 2, strike beginning with “establishing” in line 4 on page 1 down through “Assembly;” in line 14 on page 2.

On page 2, in line 14, before “Family” insert “Task Force to Study”; in line 15, strike “Program”; and strike in their entirety lines 16 through 41, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 3, in line 2, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”; and after line 2, insert:

- “(a) There is a Task Force to Study Family and Medical Leave Insurance.
- “(b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

(Over)

- (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;
- (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- (3) the Commissioner of Labor and Industry, or the Commissioner's designee;
- (4) the State Treasurer, or the State Treasurer's designee;
- (5) the Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee;
- (6) the Executive Director of the Commission for Women, or the Executive Director's designee; and
- (7) the following members, appointed jointly by the Presiding Officers of the General Assembly:
 - (i) one researcher with expertise in state-run social insurance programs;
 - (ii) one representative of a community organization that advocates for the needs of infants and children;
 - (iii) one representative of a community organization that advocates for the needs of seniors;
 - (iv) one representative of a community organization that advocates for the needs of individuals who suffer from serious health conditions;

(v) one representative of a community organization that advocates for the economic security of mothers;

(vi) one representative of a community organization that advocates for working families;

(vii) one representative from a national organization with expertise in the implementation of family medical and leave insurance programs in other states;

(viii) one representative of businesses located in the State that employ fewer than 50 employees; and

(ix) one representative of businesses located in the State that employ at least 50 employees.

(c) The appointed members of the Task Force shall be appointed by July 1, 2016.

(d) The Presiding Officers of the General Assembly jointly shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

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

(f) 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.

(Over)

(g) The Commission for Women shall apply for any available federal funding that may be used by the Task Force to carry out the duties of the Task Force.

(h) The Task Force, in consultation with the appropriate State and local agencies and community organizations, shall:

(1) study existing family and medical leave insurance programs in other states and the District of Columbia, including fund stability, the benefit structure, and the revenue structure;

(2) review the 2016 family and medical leave insurance implementation studies from Minnesota, Connecticut, and Montgomery County, Maryland;

(3) review the 2013 Report on the Task Force to Study Temporary Disability Insurance Programs;

(4) receive public testimony from relevant stakeholders; and

(5) make recommendations regarding:

(i) the development of a State social insurance program that provides short-term benefits to eligible employees who lose wages due to:

1. an illness or injury that is unrelated to the employee's employment;

2. pregnancy or childbirth;

3. time off work needed to care for a seriously ill child, spouse, or parent;

4. time off work needed to bond with a new child; or

5. time off work needed due to a qualifying exigency arising out a family member's military deployment; and

(ii) the design of an employee-funded family and medical leave insurance pool, including tax rates and benefits.

(i) On or before December 1, 2017, the Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article."

On pages 3 through 21, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 3 on page 3 through line 32 on page 21, inclusive.

On page 22, in line 1, strike "5." and substitute "2."; and in line 2, after "2016." insert "It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 1 month and, at the end of June 30, 2018, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.".