

HOUSE BILL 831

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7lr2561
CF 7lr3405

By: **Delegates Dumais, Atterbeary, Cluster, Conaway, Kittleman, Lisanti, Malone, McComas, Moon, Morhaim, Parrott, Proctor, Queen, Rey, Sanchez, Sydnor, Vallario, Vogt, and B. Wilson**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2017

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Organized Retail Crime Rings**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on Organized Retail Crime Rings;
4 providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a
5 member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the
6 reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make
7 recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its
8 findings and recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly on or
9 before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating
10 to the Task Force on Organized Retail Crime Rings.

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

13 (a) There is a Task Force on Organized Retail Crime Rings.

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

15 (1) a member of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, appointed by
16 the President of the Senate;

17 (2) a member of the House Judiciary Committee, appointed by the Speaker
18 of the House;

19 (3) the Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee;

20 (4) the Comptroller or the Comptroller's designee;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (5) the Superintendent of the Maryland State Police or the
2 Superintendent's designee; and

3 (6) the following individuals, appointed by the Governor:

4 (i) a representative of the Maryland Retailers Association;

5 (ii) a representative of the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association,
6 Inc.;

7 (iii) a representative of the Maryland State's Attorneys' Association;

8 (iv) a representative of the Maryland Sheriffs' Association; and

9 (v) two loss prevention professionals.

10 (c) The Task Force shall elect a chair of the Task Force from among its members.

11 (d) The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention shall provide staff for
12 the Task Force.

13 (e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

17 (f) The Task Force shall, at a minimum:

18 (1) examine the effects of organized retail crime rings on businesses in the
19 State;

20 (2) determine the factors related to the proliferation of organized retail
21 crime;

22 (3) examine the criminal penalties associated with organized retail crime;

23 (4) consult and coordinate with pertinent entities to identify effective
24 measures to curtail organized retail crime rings; and

25 (5) recommend legislation to combat organized retail crime rings.

26 (g) The Task Force shall meet at least twice at such times and places as it
27 determines.

1 (h) On or before October 1, 2018, the Task Force shall report its findings and
2 recommendations, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the
3 Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee and the House Judiciary Committee.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
5 1, 2017. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 6 months and, at the end of
6 December 31, 2018, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall
7 be abrogated and of no further force and effect.