

SENATE BILL 508

C8

7lr1603

By: **Senator Robinson**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2017

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Feasibility of and Impact on Small and Minority**
3 **Businesses in Maryland Conducting Business Internationally**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study the Feasibility of and Impact on
5 Small and Minority Businesses in Maryland Conducting Business Internationally;
6 providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a
7 member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the
8 reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make
9 recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its
10 findings and recommendations to the Governor and 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 Feasibility of and Impact on Small and Minority
13 Businesses in Maryland Conducting Business Internationally.

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

16 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Feasibility of and Impact on Small and
17 Minority Businesses in Maryland Conducting Business Internationally.

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

19 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
20 the Senate;

21 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the
22 House;

23 (3) two members of the Legislative Black Caucus, appointed by the Chair
24 of the Legislative Black Caucus;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (4) the Attorney General, or the Attorney General's designee;
- 2 (5) the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, or the Secretary's
3 designee;
- 4 (6) the Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's designee;
- 5 (7) the Special Secretary of the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs, or the
6 Special Secretary's designee; and
- 7 (8) the following members, appointed by the Governor:
- 8 (i) a representative of the Maryland Black Chamber of Commerce;
- 9 (ii) a representative of the Maryland Minority Contractors
10 Association; and
- 11 (iii) a representative of the Maryland Small Business Development
12 Center.
- 13 (c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.
- 14 (d) The Governor's Office of Minority Affairs shall provide staff for the Task Force.
- 15 (e) A member of the Task Force:
- 16 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but
- 17 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
18 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- 19 (f) The Task Force shall:
- 20 (1) study the challenges facing, and opportunities for, small businesses and
21 minority businesses engaging in business in an international setting; and
- 22 (2) investigate the feasibility of partnerships between small businesses
23 and minority businesses in Maryland and businesses in other countries.
- 24 (g) On or before December 31, 2018, the Task Force shall report its findings and
25 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
26 Government Article, the General Assembly.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
28 1, 2017. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June
29 30, 2018, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
30 abrogated and of no further force and effect.