

Chapter 836

(Senate Bill 142)

AN ACT concerning

Task Force to Study Bicycle Safety on Maryland Highways

FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Bicycle Safety on Maryland Highways; 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 on certain issues related to bicycle safety on highways in the State; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Bicycle Safety on Maryland Highways.

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

- (a) There is a Task Force to Study Bicycle Safety on Maryland Highways.
- (b) The Task Force consists of the following 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 Motor Vehicle Administrator, or the Administrator's designee;
 - (4) the State Highway Administrator, or the Administrator's designee;
 - (5) the Secretary of State Police, or the Secretary's designee; and
 - (6) the following members, appointed by the Governor:
 - (i) four bicycle advocates who are State residents, at least two of whom represent urban or suburban areas of the State;
 - (ii) a representative of the motor vehicle insurance industry;
 - (iii) a representative of AAA Mid-Atlantic;
 - (iv) a representative of the Maryland Association of Counties;

- (v) a representative of the Maryland Municipal League;
- (vi) a representative of the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association;
- ~~and~~
- (vii) a representative of the Maryland Motor Truck Association;
- (viii) a representative of the Maryland Sheriff's Association;*
- (ix) a civil engineer with experience in the design of mixed-use development infrastructure; and*
- (x) a traffic engineer who is familiar with mixed-use development infrastructure and who has experience with the Maryland Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.*
- (c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.
- (d) The Maryland Department of Transportation 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 it considers necessary regarding:
- (1) safety issues related to bicycle operators on highways in the State;
 - (2) the appropriate operation of bicycles on highways in the State;
 - (3) the appropriate operation of motor vehicles in relation to bicycles on highways in the State;
 - (4) the adequacy of the current and future capacity and use of bike lanes, bike paths, and protected cycle tracks in the State;
 - (5) past, current, and future implementation of Complete Streets strategies related to facilitating safe travel for all bicyclists regardless of age, ability, or mode of travel;

(6) issues related to traffic control devices governing the operation of and behavior towards bicycles on highways in the State;

(7) public education and outreach related to the operation of bicycles on highways in the State; ~~and~~

(8) potential funding sources to support and encourage the safe operation of bicycles in the State;

(9) the effects of bike lanes, bike paths, and protected cycle tracks on street parking and pedestrian and vehicular traffic flow;

(10) the siting of utilities and other infrastructure along bike lanes, bike paths, and protected cycle tracks; and

(11) best practices for ensuring access to retail, residential, commercial, and other points of interest adjacent to bike lanes, bike paths, and protected cycle tracks.

(g) On or before December 31, 2017, the Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

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

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 27, 2017.