

# HOUSE BILL 1245

P1, B1

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By: **Delegates McKay, Beitzel, and Buckel**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2018

Assigned to: Appropriations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on the Canal Place Preservation and Development Authority**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on the Canal Place Preservation and  
4 Development Authority; providing for the composition, chair, staffing, and purpose  
5 of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain  
6 compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the  
7 Task Force to consult with certain entities and study and make recommendations on  
8 certain matters; requiring the Department of General Services to conduct a certain  
9 appraisal for a certain purpose; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and  
10 recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a  
11 certain date; defining a certain term; providing for the termination of this Act; and  
12 generally relating to the Task Force on the Canal Place Preservation and  
13 Development Authority.

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

16 (a) In this section, "Authority" means the Canal Place Preservation and  
17 Development Authority.

18 (b) There is a Task Force on the Canal Place Preservation and Development  
19 Authority.

20 (c) The Task Force consists of the following members:

21 (1) the Chair of the Authority, or the Chair's designee;

22 (2) a member of the Allegany County Delegation to the General Assembly,  
23 appointed by the Chair of the Allegany County Delegation;

24 (3) the Mayor of the City of Cumberland, or the Mayor's designee;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (4) the Secretary of Budget and Management, or the Secretary's designee;

2 (5) the Secretary of General Services, or the Secretary's designee; and

3 (6) the Secretary of Planning, or the Secretary's designee; and

4 (7) a current leaseholder at the Shops at Canal Place, appointed by the  
5 Executive Director of the Authority.

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

7 (e) The Department of Planning shall provide staff for the Task Force.

8 (f) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

12 (g) (1) The purpose of the Task Force is to determine how to alter the powers  
13 of the Authority as a State agency established under Title 13, Subtitle 10 of the Financial  
14 Institutions Article in order to align the mission and purpose of the Canal Place Heritage  
15 Area with that of other certified heritage areas under Title 13, Subtitle 11 of the Financial  
16 Institutions Article.

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

18 (i) determine the most feasible method to restructure or continue  
19 the operations of the Authority as a State entity;

20 (ii) determine the best method for the disposition of the assets of the  
21 Authority, which may include:

22 1. the transfer of all or part of the assets to another State  
23 agency under § 10–304 of the State Finance and Procurement Article; and

24 2. the sale and transfer of all or part of the assets to a private  
25 entity, which must provide the current leaseholders of the Shops at Canal Place with a  
26 right of first refusal on the sale or transfer of the Shops at Canal Place; and

27 (iii) determine the best method for the transfer of all leases held and  
28 maintained by the Authority;

29 (iv) examine the effect of the Task Force's recommendations on State  
30 employees at the Authority;

1                   (v)    examine the costs associated with the dissolution of the  
2 Authority;

3                   (vi)   consult with the United States Department of the Interior and  
4 other applicable federal entities regarding the disposition of Authority assets;

5                   (vii)   undertake any other studies or examinations deemed necessary;  
6 and

7                   (viii)   recommend draft legislation to implement the conclusions of the  
8 Task Force.

9                   (3)    (i)    In order to carry out the Task Force's duties, on or before August  
10 1, 2018, the Department of General Services shall conduct an independent appraisal on the  
11 property owned and maintained by the Authority.

12                               (ii)   The appraisal required under this paragraph shall be used to  
13 issue a Request for Expressions of Interest to determine the external interest in the  
14 purchase of any or all assets managed by the Authority.

15                   (h)    On or before June 1, 2019, the Task Force shall report its findings and  
16 recommendations, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the  
17 Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee.

18                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
19 1, 2018. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 3 months and, at the end of  
20 August 31, 2019, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall  
21 be abrogated and of no further force and effect.