

HOUSE BILL 1197

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CF 9lr3139

By: **Delegates Guyton, Acevero, Attar, Cain, Chang, Feldmark, Hill, Hornberger, Ivey, Jalisi, Lehman, Lierman, Patterson, Smith, Terrasa, Valentino-Smith, and Wilkins**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2019

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Adults With Autism Spectrum Disorder**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder;
4 providing for the composition, cochairs, 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 certain
7 matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings to the Governor, the
8 Developmental Disabilities Administration, and certain committees of the General
9 Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and
10 generally relating to a Task Force on Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

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

13 (a) There is a Task Force on Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

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

15 (1) one member of the Senate Finance Committee, appointed by the chair
16 of the committee;

17 (2) one member of the House Health and Government Operations
18 Committee, appointed by the chair of the committee;

19 (3) one representative of the Maryland Department of Health, designated
20 by the Secretary of Health;

21 (4) one representative of the Maryland State Department of Education,
22 designated by the State Superintendent of Schools;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (5) one representative of the Developmental Disabilities Administration,
2 designated by the Secretary of Health;

3 (6) one representative of the Division of Rehabilitative Services within the
4 Maryland State Department of Education, designated by the Director of Rehabilitative
5 Services;

6 (7) one representative of the Division of Early Intervention and Special
7 Education within the Maryland State Department of Education, designated by the
8 Assistant State Superintendent;

9 (8) one representative of the Department of Labor, Licensing, and
10 Regulation designated by the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation;

11 (9) one representative of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board,
12 designated by the Chair of the Board;

13 (10) one representative of the Behavioral Health Administration,
14 designated by the Executive Director of the Administration;

15 (11) one representative of the Maryland Higher Education Commission,
16 designated by the Chair of the Commission;

17 (12) one representative of Autism Speaks, designated by the President of
18 Autism Speaks;

19 (13) one representative of the Maryland Center for Developmental
20 Disabilities, designated by the Director of the Center;

21 (14) one representative of Pathfinders for Autism, designated by the
22 Executive Director of Pathfinders for Autism;

23 (15) one representative of the Centers for Independent Living, appointed by
24 the Secretary of Aging;

25 (16) one representative of the Parents' Place of Maryland, designated by the
26 Executive Director of the Parents' Place;

27 (17) one representative of the Autistic Self Advocacy Network, designated
28 by the Executive Director of the Network;

29 (18) one representative of the Maryland Association of Community Services,
30 designated by the Executive Director of the Association;

31 (19) one representative of Itineris, designated by the Executive Director of
32 Itineris;

1 (20) one representative of Community Services for Autistic Adults and
2 Children, designated by the Executive Director of Community Services;

3 (21) one representative of Disability Rights Maryland, designated by the
4 Executive Director of Disability Rights Maryland;

5 (22) one representative of the Hussman Center for Adults with Autism,
6 designated by the Director of the Center;

7 (23) one representative of the University of Maryland's Center for
8 Transition and Career Innovation for Youth with Disabilities, designated by the
9 Co-Directors of the Center;

10 (24) one representative of the Maryland Association of Community Colleges,
11 designated by the President of the Executive Committee of the Association;

12 (25) one representative of Seawall Development, designated by the Chief
13 Executive Officer of Seawall Development; and

14 (26) one representative of Main Street Connect, designated by the Board of
15 Directors of Main Street Connect.

16 (c) The cochairs of the Task Force shall be the members appointed under
17 subsection (b)(1) and (2) of this section.

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

19 (e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

23 (f) The Task Force shall:

24 (1) study:

25 (i) needs relating to housing, employment, health and mental
26 health care, transportation, and social and leisure opportunities of adults with autism
27 spectrum disorder throughout the State;

28 (ii) employment opportunities and barriers for adults with autism
29 spectrum disorder including any regulations, the federal Family Educational Rights and
30 Privacy Act of 1974, and tax incentives; and

1 (iii) services available to adults with autism spectrum disorder
2 related to:

- 3 1. employment training and on-site job support;
- 4 2. training on independent living, communication, and social
5 skills;
- 6 3. behavior support; and
- 7 4. crisis intervention;

8 (2) evaluate available support for adults with autism spectrum disorder,
9 including disability accommodations, college disability programs, and job training
10 programs; and

11 (3) make recommendations on transitioning high school students with
12 autism spectrum disorder to independent adult living.

13 (g) On or before December 1, 2019, the Task Force shall report its findings and
14 recommendations to the Governor, the Developmental Disabilities Administration, and, in
15 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate Finance Committee
16 and the House Health and Government Operations Committee.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
18 1, 2019. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June
19 30, 2020, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
20 abrogated and of no further force and effect.