

# HOUSE BILL 1250

N2

11r2779

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By: **Delegate Malone**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2021

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Laws of Intestacy in Maryland**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study the Laws of Intestacy in  
4 Maryland; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force;  
5 authorizing the chair of the Task Force to appoint a certain number of additional  
6 members to the Task Force as deemed necessary by the chair; prohibiting a member  
7 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 Laws of Intestacy in Maryland.

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

15 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Laws of Intestacy in Maryland.

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

17 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
18 the Senate;

19 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the  
20 House; and

21 (3) The following members, appointed by the Governor:

22 (i) an Orphans' Court judge residing in a jurisdiction of more than  
23 250,000 people;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) an Orphans' Court judge residing in a jurisdiction of fewer than  
2 250,000 people;

3 (iii) a national expert on probate law;

4 (iv) two representatives of the Estate and Trust Law Section of the  
5 Maryland State Bar Association; and

6 (v) one representative of the University of Baltimore School of Law  
7 or the University of Maryland School of Law.

8 (c) (1) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

9 (2) The chair of the Task Force may appoint up to three additional  
10 members to the Task Force as considered necessary by the chair.

11 (d) The Administrative Office of the Courts shall provide staff for the Task Force.

12 (e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

16 (f) The Task Force shall:

17 (1) examine the laws of intestacy in Maryland;

18 (2) analyze and compare the laws and practices of other states relating to  
19 the laws of intestacy;

20 (3) examine any other research, analysis, or guidance related to the laws  
21 of intestacy that the Task Force determines to be relevant; and

22 (4) make recommendations to revise the laws of intestacy in Maryland.

23 (g) On or before January 1, 2022, the Task Force shall report its findings and  
24 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State  
25 Government Article, the General Assembly.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
27 1, 2021. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2022, this  
28 Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no  
29 further force and effect.