

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 646
Judiciary

(Delegate Taylor, *et al.*)

Task Force on the Creation of a Division of Returning Citizens and Expanded Reentry Services - Extension of Report Deadline and Task Force

This bill extends the termination date for the Task Force on the Creation of a Division of Returning Citizens and Expanded Reentry Services from June 30, 2026, to June 30, 2027. In addition, the bill extends the deadline for the submission of the required report of the task force from December 31, 2025, to October 31, 2026.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Extending the task force by one year – and extending the deadline for the required report – does not materially affect State operations or finances. Any additional expense reimbursements for task force members and staffing costs for the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: Local government finances are not anticipated to be materially affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapters 936 and 937 of 2024 established the Task Force on the Creation of a Division of Returning Citizens and Expanded Reentry Services, staffed by DPSCS. The task force must (1) identify and assess the reentry services that exist in the State; (2) identify gaps in reentry services currently provided in the State; (3) assess the markers of successful reentry; (4) ensure that the recommendations of the task force equally consider returning citizens regardless of gender; (5) develop a plan to establish a Division

of Returning Citizens within DPSCS for specified purposes; and (6) develop a plan to expand specified services for individuals in the State after release from incarceration. Task force members may not receive compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for expenses, as specified. By December 31, 2025, the task force must submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly. The Acts terminate June 30, 2026.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: SB 811 (Senator James) - Judicial Proceedings.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services;
Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 6, 2025
km/lgc

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