
By: Delegate Linton

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 1996

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Deer Overpopulation**

3 FOR the purpose of creating a Task Force to Study Deer Overpopulation; providing for
4 the membership of the Task Force; providing certain duties for the Task Force;
5 providing for the termination of the Task Force; providing for the effective date of
6 this Act; and generally relating to the creation of a Task Force to Study Deer
7 Overpopulation.

8 BY adding to

9 Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative Departments
10 Section 18-309
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative Departments**

16 18-309.

17 (A) THERE IS A TASK FORCE TO STUDY DEER OVERPOPULATION.

18 (B) THE TASK FORCE IS COMPOSED OF 11 MEMBERS APPOINTED AS FOLLOWS:

19 (1) TWO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES APPOINTED BY THE
20 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES;

21 (2) TWO MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND APPOINTED BY THE
22 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND;

23 (3) THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE OR THE SECRETARY'S
24 DESIGNEE;

25 (4) THE SECRETARY OF NATURAL RESOURCES OR THE SECRETARY'S
26 DESIGNEE;

27 (5) THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION OR THE SECRETARY'S
28 DESIGNEE;

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1 (6) FOUR MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR INCLUDING A
2 REPRESENTATIVE OF:

3 (I) THE FARM BUREAU;

4 (II) THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY;

5 (III) THE PLANT NURSERY INDUSTRY; AND

6 (IV) AN ANIMAL RIGHTS ORGANIZATION.

7 (C) THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TASK FORCE.

8 (D) THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE SHALL PROVIDE STAFF
9 FOR THE TASK FORCE.

10 (E) A MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE:

11 (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION FOR SERVING ON THE TASK
12 FORCE; BUT

13 (2) IS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER
14 THE STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE
15 BUDGET.

16 (F) THE TASK FORCE SHALL:

17 (1) STUDY THE ISSUE OF DEER OVERPOPULATION AND ITS EFFECT ON:

18 (I) AGRICULTURE AND RELATED INDUSTRIES;

19 (II) TRAFFIC SAFETY;

20 (III) COSTS TO INSURERS AND THE EFFECTS THE COSTS HAVE ON
21 INSURANCE RATES; AND

22 (IV) FORESTRY AND REFORESTATION;

23 (2) CONSULT WITH OUTSIDE AUTHORITIES ON THE IMPACT OF DEER
24 OVERPOPULATION ON THE ISSUES DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS
25 SUBSECTION;

26 (3) RECEIVE OTHER TESTIMONY THAT THE TASK FORCE CONSIDERS
27 APPROPRIATE; AND

28 (4) DEVELOP ANY RECOMMENDATIONS THAT THE TASK FORCE
29 CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE FOR CHANGES IN STATUTES OR REGULATIONS.

30 (G) (1) THE TASK FORCE MAY REPORT PRELIMINARY FINDINGS TO THE
31 GOVERNOR AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, PRIOR TO ITS FINAL REPORT, AT ANY
32 TIME THE TASK FORCE CONSIDERS A REPORT APPROPRIATE.

33 (2) THE TASK FORCE SHALL MAKE ITS FINAL REPORT NOT LATER THAN
34 DECEMBER 31, 1996 TO THE GOVERNOR AND, SUBJECT TO § 2-1312 OF THE STATE
35 GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

HOUSE BILL 1120

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1 (H) THIS SECTION IS VOID AFTER DECEMBER 31, 1996.

2 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
3 June 1, 1996.