
By: Delegate Fulton

Requested: September 13, 1995

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 1996

Assigned to: Judiciary

[TAG jentitle]HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

[TAG actc]A House Joint Resolution concerning Joint Federal-State Jails Task Force - To Study Use of Excess Federal Property

FOR the purpose of creating a Joint Federal-State Jails Task Force to study the use of excess federal property for jails to house persons awaiting trial or who have been convicted of criminal acts.

WHEREAS, The United States government has decided to close many federal establishments and to dispose of excess federal lands and other property that no longer are needed for federal purposes; and

WHEREAS, It is anticipated that a number of federal properties in Maryland, including several surplus military installations, likely will be closed and either sold or converted to other nongovernmental uses as part of the federal government's process of downsizing its operations; and

WHEREAS, There is a dire need for more usable jail space in the State to house an ever increasing jail population of persons awaiting trial or who have been convicted of criminal acts; and

WHEREAS, In some cases the transfer to the State of surplus military facilities for the purpose of housing jail inmates would be a particularly appropriate and cost-effective usage of that property; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Legislative Policy Committee is requested to create a Joint Federal-State Jails Task Force to study the use of excess federal property by the State for jail purposes; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force be composed of 20 members, including:

(1) Each member of the Maryland Congressional Delegation, or the member's designee;

(2) Five members of the House of Delegates of Maryland, appointed by the Speaker of the House, one of whom shall be designated by the Speaker as cochairman of the Task Force; and

(3) Five members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate of Maryland, one of whom shall be designated by the President as cochairman of the Task Force; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Joint Federal-State Relations Committee of the General Assembly shall provide the staff to the Task Force, and that notice of each meeting of the Task Force be made public by delivering a copy of the meeting notice to the Legislative Information Officer, Room B-6, Department of Legislative Reference, Legislative Services Building, 90 State Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401-1991, at least 10 days before any scheduled meeting of the Task Force; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1312 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly by December 15, 1996; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Reference to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates; and to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S. Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin, Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Kweisi Mfume, and Constance A. Morella, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.

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***** Please contact LDP at x3900 *****