
By: Senators Trotter and Pinsky

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 1996

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Economic Growth and Development in Prince George's County**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force on Economic Growth and Development in
4 Prince George's County; providing for the composition, chairman, reimbursement,
5 and staffing of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to examine the nature and
6 scope of certain economic opportunities in the County and to develop a certain
7 strategic plan; authorizing the Task Force to exercise certain powers; requiring the
8 Task Force to make a certain report on or before a certain date; terminating this
9 Act after a certain date; and generally relating to a Task Force on Economic
10 Growth and Development in Prince George's County.

11 Preamble

12 WHEREAS, In the past 4 years there has been an economic slowdown in Prince
13 George's County as the County continues to experience the effects of the recession of the
14 early 1990s; and

15 WHEREAS, Currently there is a high office vacancy rate of 17 percent and few new
16 construction projects in the County; and

17 WHEREAS, Many commercial properties have been reassessed at lower values
18 because of vacancies and the lack of a viable income stream from these properties; and

19 WHEREAS, A strategic plan should be formulated to create greater opportunities
20 for economic growth and development in Prince George's County, particularly a plan that
21 identifies specific sources of funding and resources and marketing strategies to assist
22 businesses located in the County; now, therefore,

23 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
24 MARYLAND, That:

25 (1) There is a Task Force on Economic Growth and Development in Prince
26 George's County.

27 (2) The Task Force shall be composed of nine members appointed as
28 follows:

29 (i) Three members appointed by the County Executive of Prince
30 George's County;

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1 (ii) Two members appointed by the Prince George's County
2 Delegation of the Maryland House of Delegates;

3 (iii) Two members appointed by the Prince George's County
4 Delegation of the Senate of Maryland; and

5 (iv) Two members appointed by the County Council of PrinceGeorge's
6 County.

7 (3) The Governor shall designate the chairman of the Task Force.

8 (4) The Prince George's County Government shall provide staff for the Task
9 Force.

10 (5) A member of the Task Force:

11 (i) May not receive compensation; but

12 (ii) Is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
13 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

14 (6) The Task Force shall:

15 (i) Examine the nature and scope of currently available opportunities
16 for economic growth and development in Prince George's County; and

17 (ii) Develop a strategic plan for the creation of greater opportunities
18 for economic growth and development in Prince George's County, including the
19 identification of specific sources of funding and resources and marketing strategies to
20 assist businesses located in the County.

21 (7) The Task Force may:

22 (i) Review the efforts of other jurisdictions in this and in other states
23 to create greater opportunities for economic growth and development in those
24 jurisdictions;

25 (ii) Consult with outside experts concerning creative, innovative, and
26 successful strategies to create greater opportunities for economic growth and
27 development in Prince George's County;

28 (iii) Receive testimony that the Task Force considers appropriate; and

29 (iv) Develop any recommendations that it considers appropriate for
30 changes in statutes, regulations, organization, or procedures.

31 (8) On or before July 1, 1997, The Task Force shall report its findings and
32 recommendations to:

33 (i) The County Executive of Prince George's County; and

34 (ii) The Prince George's County Delegation to the MarylandGeneral
35 Assembly.

36 (9) This Act shall terminate and be of no effect after July 1, 1997.

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