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**By: Senators Trotter and Pinsky**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 1996

Assigned to: Rules

Re-referred to: Finance, February 14, 1996

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 22, 1996

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_

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,

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

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

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

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

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

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

13 (iv) Two members appointed by the County Council of Prince George's  
14 County.

15 (3) The ~~Governor~~ County Executive of Prince George's County shall  
16 designate the chairman of the Task Force.

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

19 (5) A member of the Task Force:

20 (i) May not receive compensation; but

21 (ii) ~~Is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard~~  
22 ~~State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State~~ MAY BE REIMBURSED AS PROVIDED  
23 IN THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY budget.

24 (6) The Task Force shall:

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

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

31 (7) The Task Force may:

32 (i) Review the efforts of other jurisdictions in this and in other states  
33 to create greater opportunities for economic growth and development in those  
34 jurisdictions;

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

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

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

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

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

7 (ii) The Prince George's County Delegation to the Maryland General  
8 Assembly.

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

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