
By: Delegates Stocksdale and Frank

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 1997

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Task Force to Study the Creation of a Central Registry of Judgement Liens

3 FOR the purpose of creating the Task Force to Study the Creation of a Central Registry
4 of Judgement Liens; providing for the membership of the Task Force; providing
5 certain duties for the Task Force; providing for the termination of the Task Force;
6 and generally relating to the creation of the Task Force to Study the Creation of a
7 Central Registry of Judgement Liens.

8 BY adding to

9 Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative Departments
10 Section 18-313
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1996 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 18-313.

17 (A) THERE IS A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE CREATION OF A CENTRAL
18 REGISTRY OF JUDGEMENT LIENS.

19 (B) THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

20 (1) ONE MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES APPOINTED BY THE
21 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES;

22 (2) ONE MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES APPOINTED BY THE
23 MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES;

24 (3) ONE MEMBER OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND APPOINTED BY THE
25 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND;

26 (4) ONE MEMBER OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND APPOINTED BY THE
27 MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND;

28 (5) THE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND
29 TAXATION OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;

2

1 (6) ONE LAWYER WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE SECTION OF REAL
2 PROPERTY, PLANNING, AND ZONING OF THE MARYLAND STATE BAR ASSOCIATION,
3 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;

4 (7) ONE REAL ESTATE BROKER, LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 17 OF
5 THE BUSINESS OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS ARTICLE, APPOINTED BY THE
6 GOVERNOR; AND

7 (8) TWO CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES APPOINTED BY THE CHIEF JUDGE OF
8 THE COURT OF APPEALS.

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

10 (D) THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE SHALL PROVIDE STAFF
11 FOR THE TASK FORCE.

12 (E) A MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE:

13 (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION FOR SERVING THE TASK FORCE;
14 BUT

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

17 (F) THE TASK FORCE SHALL:

18 (1) STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF CREATING A CENTRAL REGISTRY OF
19 JUDGEMENT LIENS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALLOWING A JUDGEMENT CREDITOR TO
20 BE ABLE TO RECORD AND INDEX A LIEN WITH A CIRCUIT COURT THAT WILL BE
21 EFFECTIVE AGAINST THE JUDGEMENT DEBTOR'S INTEREST IN LAND LOCATED IN
22 ANY COUNTY IN THE STATE;

23 (2) CONSULT WITH OUTSIDE AUTHORITIES REGARDING THE IMPACT
24 OF A CENTRAL REGISTRY OF JUDGEMENT LIENS ON PROPERTY OWNERS;

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

27 (4) DEVELOP ANY RECOMMENDATIONS THAT IT CONSIDERS
28 APPROPRIATE FOR CHANGES IN STATUTES, REGULATIONS, ORGANIZATION, OR
29 PROCEDURE.

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

33 (2) THE TASK FORCE SHALL MAKE ITS FINAL REPORT NOT LATER THAN
34 DECEMBER 31, 1997 TO THE GOVERNOR AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

35 (H) THIS SECTION SHALL BE VOID AFTER DECEMBER 31, 1997.

36 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
37 June 1, 1997.