
By: Delegates Walkup, W. Baker, Guns, Bozman, and Eckardt

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 1997

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Task Force on the Verification of the Documentation of Migrant Workers

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on the Verification of the
4 Documentation of Migrant Workers; providing for the appointment, membership,
5 term, mission, powers, and duties of the Task Force; providing for the abrogation of
6 this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force on the Verification of the
7 Documentation of Migrant Workers.

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

10 (a) There is a Task Force on the Verification of the Documentation of Migrant
11 Workers.

12 (b) (1) The Task Force shall be composed of 13 members.

13 (2) The President of the Senate shall appoint the following members:

14 (i) One member of the Senate, representing the Southern Maryland
15 counties of Calvert County, Charles County, and St. Mary's County;

16 (ii) One member of the Senate, representing the Eastern Shore
17 counties of Caroline County, Cecil County, Dorchester County, Kent County, Queen
18 Anne's County, Somerset County, Talbot County, Wicomico County, and Worcester
19 County;

20 (iii) One member of the Senate, representing the Western Maryland
21 counties of Allegany County, Frederick County, Garrett County, and Washington County;

22 (iv) One member of the Senate, representing the Central Maryland
23 counties of Anne Arundel County, Baltimore County, Carroll County, Harford County,
24 Howard County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, and Baltimore City.

25 (3) The Speaker of the House of Delegates shall appoint the following
26 members:

27 (i) One member of the House of Delegates, representing the
28 Southern Maryland counties of Calvert County, Charles County, and St. Mary's County;

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1 (ii) One member of the House of Delegates, representing the Eastern
 2 Shore counties of Caroline County, Cecil County, Dorchester County, Kent County,
 3 Queen Anne's County, Somerset County, Talbot County, Wicomico County, and
 4 Worcester County;

5 (iii) One member of the House of Delegates, representing the Western
 6 Maryland counties of Allegany County, Frederick County, Garrett County, and
 7 Washington County; and

8 (iv) One member of the House of Delegates, representing the Central
 9 Maryland counties of Anne Arundel County, Baltimore County, Carroll County, Harford
 10 County, Howard County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, and Baltimore
 11 City.

12 (4) The Governor shall appoint the following members:

13 (i) One representative of the Department of Agriculture;

14 (ii) One representative of the Office of Employment Services; and

15 (iii) Three employers regularly employing migrant workers in this
 16 State.

17 (c) The Governor shall designate the chairperson of the Task Force.

18 (d) Seven members of the Task Force shall constitute a quorum.

19 (e) The Task Force shall determine the times and places of its meetings.

20 (f) The Department of Legislative Reference shall provide staff for the Task
 21 Force.

22 (g) A member of the Task Force:

23 (1) May not receive compensation; but

24 (2) Is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
 25 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

26 (h) The Task Force shall:

27 (1) Study the problems of Maryland employers in determining the validity of
 28 the documentation that authorizes a migrant worker to work legally in the State; and

29 (2) Develop recommendations toward a workable system by which the
 30 Office of Employment Services, together with the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization
 31 Service, shall verify the validity of the documentation that authorizes a migrant worker to
 32 work legally in the State before an employer hires the migrant worker.

33 (i) The Task Force may:

34 (1) Consult with outside experts concerning the documentation that
 35 authorizes a migrant worker to work legally in the State; and

36 (2) Receive any testimony the Task Force considers appropriate.

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1 (j) The Task Force shall report its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to
2 the Governor and, subject to § 2-1312 of the State Government Article, to the Legislative
3 Policy Committee on or before October 1, 1997.

4 (k) This section shall terminate and be of no effect after October 1, 1997.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 July 1, 1997.