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**By: Delegates Barve, Frank, Crumlin, Goldwater, Kelly, Pendergrass, and ~~Walkup~~  
Walkup, and Pitkin**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1997

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 18, 1997

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Examine the Applicability of Manufacturing Laws to High-Technology**  
3 **Businesses**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Examine the Applicability of  
5 Manufacturing Laws to High-Technology Businesses; specifying the purposes and  
6 responsibilities of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report to certain  
7 persons by a certain date; providing for the composition of the Task Force;  
8 providing for the effective date of this Act; and generally relating to  
9 high-technology businesses and the Task Force to Examine the Applicability  
10 Manufacturing Laws to High-Technology Businesses.

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

13 (a) There is a Task Force to Examine the Applicability of Manufacturing Laws to  
14 High-Technology Businesses.

15 (b) The Task Force consists of:

16 (1) 2 Delegates appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates;

17 (2) 2 Senators appointed by the President of the Senate;

18 (3) The Director of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation or  
19 the Director's designee;

20 (4) 2 members, one of whom shall be a representative of the Maryland  
21 Municipal League and one of whom shall be a representative of the Maryland Association  
22 of Counties;

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1 (5) 5 members appointed by the Governor, as follows:

2 (i) 1 shall be nominated by the Suburban Maryland High Technology  
3 Council;

4 (ii) 1 shall be nominated by the Greater Baltimore Committee  
5 Technology Council;

6 (iii) 1 shall represent the University of Maryland System; and

7 (iv) 2 shall have background and experience in manufacturing; ~~and~~

8 (6) The Secretary of Business and Economic Development or the  
9 Secretary's designee; and

10 (7) The Comptroller of the State or the Comptroller's designee.

11 (c) The Governor shall appoint a Chairman of the Task Force.

12 (d) The Department of Business and Economic Development shall provide staff  
13 to the Task Force.

14 (e) The purpose of the Task Force is to:

15 (1) Determine the circumstances under which current State manufacturing  
16 laws apply to high-technology businesses, including exemptions under the Tax - General  
17 Article and the Tax - Property Article;

18 (2) Determine whether the applicability or inapplicability of those laws  
19 fosters or deters the growth of high-technology businesses in the State; and

20 (3) Develop legislative recommendations to further encourage and foster  
21 the growth of high-technology businesses in the State.

22 (f) On or before November 14, 1997, the Task Force shall submit a report to the  
23 Governor and, subject to § 2-1312 of the State Government Article, to the General  
24 Assembly.

25 (g) The Task Force shall terminate on January 1, 1998.

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