
By: Senators Bromwell, Boozer, Craig, and Amoss Amoss, Hollinger, Hoffman, McFadden, McCabe, Teitelbaum, Collins, Astle, Della, Derr, Dorman, Hafer, Madden, Roesser, and Trotter ~~Trotter, and Ferguson~~

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Read second time: February 21, 1997

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Senate action: Adopted with floor amendments

Read second time: February 25, 1997

RESOLUTION NO.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION ____

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Task Force on the Maryland Wine Industry**

3 FOR the purpose of requesting the Governor to establish a Task Force on the Maryland
4 Wine Industry to study the impact of the industry on the State and the desirability
5 of enacting legislation that would provide economic and marketing assistance to the
6 industry to promote the growth and vitality of the industry; providing for the
7 composition and staffing of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to provide
8 notice of its meetings to certain persons; requiring a report to the Governor and
9 General Assembly by a certain date; and generally ~~providing for a~~ relating to the
10 Task Force on the Maryland Wine Industry.

11 WHEREAS, The Maryland Wine Industry historically has been a significant part of
12 the State's agricultural economy; and

13 WHEREAS, The Maryland Wine Industry attracts regional and national attention
14 to Maryland through the production of award-winning wines; and

15 WHEREAS, The process of wine making requires large investments of capital and
16 commitments of financial resources to ensure quality wines; and

17 WHEREAS, Vineyards promote the State's goal of providing open spaces and
18 green spaces; and

19 WHEREAS, The soil conditions and climate found in Maryland are beneficial for
20 the production of world class wines; and

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1 WHEREAS, The State can improve its ability to attract new vineyards and wineries
2 by establishing programs to assist in the attraction and retention of wineries; and

3 WHEREAS, Wineries are tourist attractions bringing out-of-state residents into
4 Maryland and generating economic tourist activity; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
6 Governor is requested to establish a Task Force on the Maryland Wine Industry to study
7 the impact of the wine industry on the State and the feasibility and desirability of enacting
8 legislation to improve the economic, market, and legislative environments for Maryland's
9 wine industry; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall:

11 (1) Analyze the impact of the Maryland Wine Industry on:

12 (i) the State's economy;

13 (ii) the State's agricultural industry;

14 (iii) the State's tourism industry; and

15 (iv) the State's efforts to promote open spaces and green spaces, and
16 prevent suburban sprawl;

17 (2) Compare efforts in other states to promote wine growing in these states;
18 and

19 (3) Develop recommendations to establish programs within the Department
20 of Economic and Business Development, the Department of Agriculture, and other
21 relevant agencies, that would promote the health and growth of the Maryland Wine
22 Industry; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall consist of:

24 (1) Two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
25 the Senate;

26 (2) Two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
27 the House;

28 (3) The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, or the Secretary's
29 designee;

30 (4) The following members appointed by the Governor:

31 (i) Two representatives of the Department of Business and Economic
32 Development with experience in financing programs and the tourism industry;

33 (ii) One representative from the Association of Maryland Wineries;

34 (iii) One representative from the Maryland Tourism Council;

35 (iv) One representative from the general public with demonstrated
36 experience in agriculture, wine making, or tourism;

3

1 (v) One representative of the Maryland Grape Growers Association;
2 and

3 (vi) One representative of the Maryland Wine and Grape Advisory
4 Board; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall be staffed by the Department of Business
6 and Economic Development and the Department of Agriculture; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall report to the Governor and, in accordance
8 with § 2-1312 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly on or before
9 December 1, 1997; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That notice of each meeting of the Task Force be made public by
11 delivering a copy of the meeting notice to the Legislative Information Officer, Room B-6,
12 Department of Legislative Reference, Legislative Services Building, 90 State Circle,
13 Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991. During the Interim, the notice shall be delivered no
14 later than Thursday at 9:00 a.m. and, during the legislative Session, Wednesday at 9:00
15 a.m., for inclusion in the weekly Hearing Schedule; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
17 Legislative Reference to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland; the
18 Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the
19 Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates.