
By: **Delegates E. Burns, R. Baker, Benson, Billings, Bobo, Boston, Branch, Ciliberti, Conroy, Crumlin, Curran, C. Davis, DeCarlo, Dypski, Exum, Faulkner, Flanagan, Frank, Fulton, Getty, Harrison, Howard, D. Hughes, Jones, Kach, Kagan, Kirk, Kittleman, Klima, Mandel, Marriott, McHale, Minnick, C. Mitchell, Mohorovic, Morgan, Morhaim, Muse, Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks, Opara, Poole, Ports, Rosenberg, Rudolph, Watson, Weir, Wood, and Malone**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 1998
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the History and Legacy of Slavery in Maryland**

3 FOR the purpose of creating a Task Force to Study the History and Legacy of Slavery
4 in Maryland; specifying the composition and duties of the Task Force; providing
5 for the staffing of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report its findings
6 and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly; providing for
7 the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the establishment of the
8 Task Force to Study the History and Legacy of Slavery in Maryland.

9 BY adding to
10 Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative Departments
11 Section 18-307
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative Departments**

17 18-307.

18 (A) THERE IS A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE HISTORY AND LEGACY OF
19 SLAVERY IN MARYLAND.

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

21 (1) TWO MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND APPOINTED BY THE
22 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

1 (2) TWO MEMBERS OF THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
2 APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

3 (3) THE SECRETARY OF STATE OR THE DESIGNEE OF THE SECRETARY;

4 (4) TWO HISTORIANS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;

5 (5) TWO REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR FROM
6 AFRICAN AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS; AND

7 (6) TWO REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR FROM
8 NON-AFRICAN AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS.

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

10 (D) MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION.

11 (E) THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL PROVIDE STAFF
12 SUPPORT FOR THE TASK FORCE TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE WITHIN EXISTING
13 BUDGETED RESOURCES.

14 (F) THE TASK FORCE SHALL:

15 (1) STUDY THE HISTORY AND EFFECTS OF SLAVERY IN MARYLAND
16 RELATING TO ITS SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND EDUCATIONAL IMPACT;

17 (2) IDENTIFY THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY AFRICAN AMERICANS
18 THROUGH THE FORCED INSTITUTION OF SLAVERY IN MARYLAND; AND

19 (3) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY TO ADDRESS THE CONSEQUENCES OF SLAVERY IN MARYLAND.

21 (G) THE TASK FORCE SHALL ISSUE A FINAL REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS AND
22 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND, SUBJECT TO § 2-1246 OF THE STATE
23 GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BY DECEMBER 31, 1999.

24 (H) THIS SECTION SHALL BE VOID AND OF NO EFFECT AFTER DECEMBER 31,
25 1999 WITH NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
27 July 1, 1998.