

HOUSE BILL 923

Unofficial Copy  
P1

1998 Regular Session  
8lr0455

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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

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 27, 1998

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

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:

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

2 18-307.

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

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

6 (1) TWO MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND APPOINTED BY THE  
7 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

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

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

11 (4) TWO HISTORIANS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;

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

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

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

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

18 (E) THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL PROVIDE STAFF  
19 SUPPORT FOR THE TASK FORCE TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE WITHIN EXISTING  
20 BUDGETED RESOURCES.

21 (F) THE TASK FORCE SHALL:

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

24 (2) IDENTIFY THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY AFRICAN AMERICANS  
25 THROUGH THE FORCED INSTITUTION OF SLAVERY IN MARYLAND; ~~AND,~~

26 ~~(3) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND GENERAL~~  
27 ~~ASSEMBLY TO ADDRESS THE CONSEQUENCES OF SLAVERY IN MARYLAND.~~

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

31 (H) THIS SECTION SHALL BE VOID AND OF NO EFFECT AFTER DECEMBER 31,  
32 1999 WITH NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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