
By: **Delegates Pitkin, Rawlings, McIntosh, Kopp, Conway, Hecht, and Franchot**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Personnel - Telecommuting Pilot Program**

3 FOR the purpose of reestablishing the Telecommuting Pilot Program; requiring the
4 Governor to establish a statewide Pilot Program; requiring the Secretary of
5 Budget and Management to adopt policies to administer the Pilot Program;
6 requiring the Secretary to report on the effect of the Pilot Program; requiring
7 the Department of Budget and Management to report concerning which State
8 agencies participate in the Pilot Program; defining certain terms; providing for
9 the termination of this Act; and generally relating to reestablishing a
10 Telecommuting Pilot Program.

11 BY adding to

12 Article - State Personnel and Pensions
13 Section 2-801 through 2-803 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 8.
14 Telecommuting Pilot Program"
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (1997 Replacement Volume)

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

19 **Article - State Personnel and Pensions**

20 **SUBTITLE 8. TELECOMMUTING PILOT PROGRAM.**

21 2-801.

22 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
23 INDICATED.

24 (B) "PILOT PROGRAM" MEANS THE TELECOMMUTING PILOT PROGRAM.

25 (C) "TELECOMMUTING" MEANS USING TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY
26 TO WORK AT A LOCATION OTHER THAN A TRADITIONAL OFFICE SETTING.

1 2-802.

2 (A) THE GOVERNOR SHALL REESTABLISH THE STATEWIDE TELECOMMUTING
3 PILOT PROGRAM.

4 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IS TO ALLOW STATE EMPLOYEES
5 TO WORK AT A LOCATION OTHER THAN A STATE OFFICE THROUGH THE USE OF
6 TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY.

7 2-803.

8 THE SECRETARY SHALL:

9 (1) REINSTATE ANY GUIDELINES AND POLICIES PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED
10 FOR THE FORMER PILOT PROGRAM TO ESTABLISH AND CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES
11 OF THE PILOT PROGRAM;

12 (2) ADOPT ANY NECESSARY GUIDELINES AND POLICIES TO ESTABLISH
13 AND CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THE PILOT PROGRAM;

14 (3) ESTABLISH A STATE EMPLOYEE COMPUTER PURCHASING PROGRAM
15 TO ALLOW TELECOMMUTING STATE EMPLOYEES TO PURCHASE COMPUTERS AT
16 DISCOUNT PRICES OR THROUGH LOW-INTEREST LOANS PROVIDED BY THE STATE
17 EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION; AND

18 (4) REQUIRE PARTICIPATING AGENCIES TO PROVIDE TELECOMMUTING
19 STATE EMPLOYEES WITH COPIES OF RELEVANT AGENCY TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES
20 AND REPORTS THAT ARE STORED ON COMPUTER DISK.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That on or before October 1,
22 1999, the Secretary of Budget and Management shall submit a report to the Senate
23 Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee, in
24 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, concerning the effect of the
25 Pilot Program within each selected agency.

26 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of
27 Budget and Management, for the purposes of review and comment, shall notify the
28 Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee
29 upon the selection of the State agencies that will participate in this Pilot Program.

30 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
31 October 1, 1998. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of
32 September 30, 2001, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
33 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.