
By: **Charles County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Mineral Industry of Charles County**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study the Mineral Industry of
4 Charles County; establishing the membership, purposes, and duties of the Task
5 Force; providing staff support for the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to
6 report to certain persons by a certain date; providing for the termination of this
7 Act; and generally relating to the mineral industry in Charles County.

8 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
9 MARYLAND, That:

10 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Mineral Industry of Charles County.

11 (b) The Task Force consists of the following nine members appointed by the
12 Board of County Commissioners:

13 (1) one county commissioner;

14 (2) the County Planning Director;

15 (3) three representatives of the mineral industry in Charles County;

16 (4) one mining official of the Maryland Department of the Environment;

17 (5) one representative of the county Economic Development Commission;

18 (6) one representative of the county Chamber of Commerce; and

19 (7) one citizen of the county as a member-at-large.

20 (c) The Board of County Commissioners shall designate the chairman of the
21 Task Force.

22 (d) The Task Force shall meet at least once each month and at the request of
23 the chairman.

1 (e) A majority of the authorized membership of the Task Force constitutes a
2 quorum.

3 (f) The Task Force shall:

4 (1) study the location of mineral deposits in the county and the measures
5 currently in force to preserve their availability for future use;

6 (2) assess means to:

7 (i) ensure the economic recovery of mineral deposits and the
8 economic health of the mineral industry in the county; and

9 (ii) provide appropriate measures for protection of existing
10 neighboring uses while extracting mineral resources and for reclamation of mined
11 areas;

12 (3) assess best practices for mineral extraction and processing with
13 regard to:

14 (i) environmental and economic conditions;

15 (ii) the impact on highway safety, suburban development, and
16 hydrology; and

17 (iii) alternative sources and uses of water; and

18 (4) make recommendations necessary to preserve rights to mineral
19 extraction in an appropriate manner.

20 (g) The County Attorney of Charles County shall provide staff support to the
21 Task Force.

22 (h) The Task Force shall prepare a final report of its study and
23 recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners and to the Charles County
24 Delegation of the Maryland General Assembly on or before December 1, 1998.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 June 1, 1998. It shall remain effective until December 31, 1998 and, at the end of
27 December 31, 1998, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act
28 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.