HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 11

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By: Delegates Kopp, Bobo, Boutin, Bronrott, Brown, Cadden, Conroy, Edwards, Goldwater, Hecht, Heller, howard, Hurson, A. Jones, Love, Mandel, McKee, Menes, Minnick, Mitchell, Mohorovic, Pitkin, Rosenberg, Rudolph, Shank, Slade, Stern, Swain, and Weir

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 1999

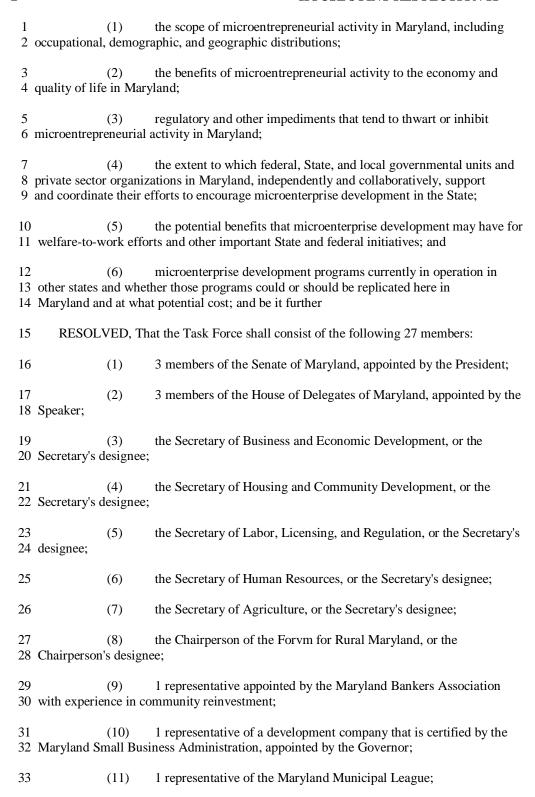
Assigned to: Appropriations

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1	Α.	House	Joint	Reso	lution	concerning	,
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2 Task Force on Microenterprise Development in Maryland

- 3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to establish a Task Force on
- 4 Microenterprise Development in Maryland; providing for the membership,
- 5 responsibilities, staffing, and duration of the Task Force; requiring a certain
- 6 report by a certain date; and generally relating to the establishment of a Task
- 7 Force on Microenterprise Development in Maryland.
- 8 WHEREAS, Approximately 85% of all new jobs in Maryland are created by
- 9 small businesses, and many of these jobs are created by very small businesses, known
- 10 as "microenterprises", which employ 5 or fewer employees; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Microenterprise development has significant economic and societal
- 12 benefits for urban, suburban, and rural areas of the State; and
- WHEREAS, Government and private sector programs and services designed to
- 14 further economic and community development are not ordinarily accessible to
- 15 microentrepreneurs; and
- WHEREAS, A considerable entrepreneurial spirit exists among many Maryland
- 17 residents that is thwarted by regulatory barriers and a lack of access to training,
- 18 technical assistance, and capital; and
- 19 WHEREAS, A number of other states, including Virginia and North Carolina,
- 20 have established state programs to support microenterprise development; and
- 21 WHEREAS, Maryland has a great opportunity to unleash the considerable
- 22 underdeveloped human and economic potential that currently exists in all regions of
- 23 the State; now, therefore, be it
- 24 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
- 25 Governor shall create the Task Force on Microenterprise Development in Maryland to
- 26 study:



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1		(12)	1 representative of the Maryland Association of Counties;
2	the Governor	(13)	1 county or municipal economic development director, appointed by
4 5	Developmen	(14) t;	1 representative of the Maryland Center for Community
6 7	Agencies;	(15)	1 representative of the Maryland Association of Community Action
8		(16)	1 representative of the Maryland Center for Economic Development;
9		(17)	1 representative of the Women Entrepreneurs of Baltimore;
10	1	(18)	1 representative of the Maryland Capital Enterprises;
11		(19)	1 representative of the Maryland Association of Community Colleges
12 13		(20) erprise de	1 representative of an institution of higher education with an interest velopment, appointed by the Governor; and
14		(21)	3 microentrepreneurs, appointed by the Governor from a list of

- 15 nominees submitted by appropriate governmental units and nonprofit organizations,
- 16 at least 1 of which resides in a rural area of the State; and be it further
- 17 RESOLVED, That the Governor shall select a chairperson from among the 18 members of the Task Force; and be it further
- 19 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall be staffed by the Department of
- 20 Business and Economic Development using existing appropriate resources; and be it
- 21 further
- 22 RESOLVED, That the Task Force report its findings and recommendations, as
- 23 provided in § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly and to
- 24 the Governor not later than December 1, 1999; and be it further
- 25 RESOLVED, That, with no further action required by the General Assembly or
- 26 the Governor, after December 1, 1999, the Task Force shall no longer exist; and be it
- 27 further
- 28 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
- 29 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;
- 30 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and
- 31 the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates.