
By: **Senators Teitelbaum, Exum, Kelley, Conway, Sfikas, Blount, Frosh,
Hollinger, Dyson, Hogan, and Dorman**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 1999

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Missing Children**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force on Missing Children; establishing the
4 purpose, membership, meetings, reporting requirements, and termination of the
5 Task Force; requiring the Task Force to cooperate and communicate with the
6 advisory council for missing children; prohibiting a member of the Task Force
7 from receiving compensation; establishing that a member of the Task Force is
8 entitled to a certain reimbursement for expenses; providing staff support for the
9 Task Force; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to
10 the Task Force on Missing Children.

11 BY adding to

12 Article - Family Law

13 Section 9-404

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (1999 Replacement Volume)

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

18 **Article - Family Law**

19 9-404.

20 (A) THERE IS A TASK FORCE ON MISSING CHILDREN.

21 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL BE TO STUDY AND
22 RECOMMEND A COMPUTER SYSTEM THAT:

23 (1) SENDS AND RECEIVES HIGHLY RECOGNIZABLE COLOR AND BLACK
24 AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES OF MISSING AND ABDUCTED CHILDREN;

25 (2) PROVIDES FOR THE SPONTANEOUS, AUTOMATIC RECEPTION OF
26 PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES OF MISSING AND ABDUCTED CHILDREN BY ALL

1 PARTICIPATING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND FORCES, AND IS FASTER THAN
2 SYSTEMS CURRENTLY IN USE;

3 (3) HAS DEMONSTRABLY USER-FRIENDLY COMPONENTS WHICH LAW
4 ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS CAN QUICKLY AND EASILY BECOME PROFICIENT IN
5 USING; AND

6 (4) IS READILY COMPATIBLE WITH EXISTING SYSTEMS.

7 (C) THE TASK FORCE SHALL CONSIST OF:

8 (1) THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE POLICE, WHO SHALL SERVE AS
9 CHAIRMAN OF THE TASK FORCE;

10 (2) TWO MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND SELECTED BY THE
11 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

12 (3) TWO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES SELECTED BY THE
13 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

14 (4) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND
15 FAMILIES SELECTED BY THE SPECIAL SECRETARY FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND
16 FAMILIES.

17 (5) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS SELECTED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE
18 STATE POLICE:

19 (I) THREE REPRESENTATIVES FROM COUNTY AND STATE POLICE
20 DEPARTMENTS; AND

21 (II) FIVE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AT LARGE.

22 (D) THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR MISSING CHILDREN ESTABLISHED UNDER §
23 9-403 OF THIS SUBTITLE AND THE TASK FORCE SHALL COOPERATE AND
24 COMMUNICATE AS NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH THE MISSION OF THE TASK FORCE.

25 (E) THE TASK FORCE SHALL MEET AT THE TIMES THAT THE CHAIRMAN
26 DETERMINES.

27 (F) A MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE:

28 (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION; BUT

29 (2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE
30 STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

31 (G) STAFF SUPPORT FOR THE TASK FORCE SHALL BE PROVIDED BY THE
32 DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE.

33 (H) ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2001, THE TASK FORCE SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT ON
34 THE RESULTS OF ITS INVESTIGATION AND STUDY, TOGETHER WITH ANY RESULTING

1 POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS, TO THE GOVERNOR AND, SUBJECT TO § 2-1246 OF THE
2 STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 1999. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of
5 September 30, 2000, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
6 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.