
By: **Delegates Morhaim and Taylor**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2000

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Quality of Life Indicators and the Portrait of a Robust Maryland**

3 FOR the purpose of creating the Advisory Committee on Quality of Life Indicators;
4 requiring the Advisory Committee to develop certain goals and indicators for
5 measuring progress toward an optimum quality of life; requiring that the goals
6 include certain items; requiring the Advisory Committee to develop a Portrait of
7 a Robust Maryland to embody that optimum quality of life, and in doing so to
8 hold a certain number of public hearings to solicit public input; requiring the
9 Advisory Committee to consult State and national private groups, State and
10 national agencies, and other jurisdictions in developing the indicators and the
11 Portrait; providing deadlines for the development of the indicators and the
12 Portrait; providing for the membership of the Advisory Committee and the
13 appointment, tenure, chairmanship, and compensation of Advisory Committee
14 members; requiring the Advisory Committee to meet, hold public hearings, and
15 provide certain reports to the Governor and to the General Assembly; requiring
16 the General Assembly to review the indicators and the Portrait and make
17 suggestions for inclusion; requiring the use of the Portrait and the indicators
18 and providing a schedule for their use; requiring the Advisory Committee and
19 the Department of Legislative Services to consider the possibility of studying the
20 impact on the indicators of proposed legislation, regulations, tax credits and
21 exemptions, and certain State assistance; providing for the termination of this
22 Act; and generally relating to the Advisory Committee on Quality of Life
23 Indicators and the development and use of quality of life indicators and the
24 Portrait of a Robust Maryland.

25 BY adding to

26 Article - State Finance and Procurement

27 Section 5-5A-01 through 5-5A-04 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 5A.

28 Quality of Life Indicators"

29 Annotated Code of Maryland

30 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

1 **Article - State Finance and Procurement**

2 SUBTITLE 5A. QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATORS.

3 5-5A-01.

4 (A) THE PURPOSE OF THIS SUBTITLE IS TO APPROPRIATELY MEASURE
5 CHANGES TO QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE STATE BY DEVELOPING A PORTRAIT OF A
6 ROBUST MARYLAND THAT CAPTURES AND EMBODIES THE GOALS OF IMPROVING
7 THE STATE'S QUALITY OF LIFE, WHICH THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE
8 BRANCHES OF STATE GOVERNMENT ARE ENDEAVORING TO ACHIEVE IN
9 ADMINISTERING THE STATE GOVERNMENT AND IN DEVELOPING POLICIES,
10 LEGISLATION, REGULATIONS, AND PROGRAMS.

11 (B) BECAUSE THE FOREMOST CONSIDERATION OF STATE OFFICIALS IN
12 DEVELOPING ANY STATE POLICY, LEGISLATION, REGULATION, OR PROGRAM, AND IN
13 MONITORING ANY LEGAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, OR ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE IS
14 WHETHER THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE STATE WILL BE ENHANCED, AND BECAUSE
15 CURRENT STATE AND NATIONAL MEASURES OF PROGRESS, SUCH AS THE FEDERAL
16 MEASURE OF THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AND THE U.S. COMMERCE
17 DEPARTMENT'S GROSS STATE PRODUCT, DO NOT ADEQUATELY MEASURE THE
18 IMPACT ON QUALITY OF LIFE OF CHANGES IN THE LEGAL, ECONOMIC,
19 ENVIRONMENTAL, AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE OF THE NATION AND THE STATE, IT IS
20 THE POLICY OF THIS STATE THAT:

21 (1) STATE OFFICIALS SHALL DEVELOP QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATORS
22 AND A PORTRAIT OF A ROBUST MARYLAND; AND

23 (2) STATE OFFICIALS SHALL USE THE PORTRAIT OF A ROBUST
24 MARYLAND TO RATIONALLY PROJECT AND REACT TO THE IMPACT ON QUALITY OF
25 LIFE OF THEIR OFFICIAL ACTIONS, AS WELL AS THE IMPACT OF LEGAL, ECONOMIC,
26 SOCIAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES WHICH THEY MAY BE OTHERWISE UNABLE
27 TO CONTROL.

28 5-5A-02.

29 (A) THERE IS AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATORS IN
30 THE OFFICE OF PLANNING.

31 (B) (1) THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF 13 MEMBERS.

32 (2) THE MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ARE:

33 (I) THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING;

34 (II) A MEMBER OF THE SENATE, APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF
35 THE SENATE;

36 (III) A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY THE
37 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES;

1 (IV) A REPRESENTATIVE OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING
2 DEPARTMENTS, APPOINTED BY THE RESPECTIVE SECRETARIES:

- 3 DEVELOPMENT;
- 4 1. THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC
 - 5 2. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION;
 - 6 3. THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT;
 - 7 4. THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE;
 - 8 5. THE OFFICE FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES;
 - 9 6. THE STATE POLICE; AND
 - 10 7. THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION; AND

11 (V) THREE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE:

- 12 1. MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMIC OR NONPROFIT
13 COMMUNITY;
- 14 2. KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT AND EXPERIENCED IN
15 DEVELOPING INDICATORS RELATING TO QUALITY OF LIFE; AND
 - 16 3. APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, WITH THE ADVICE AND
17 CONSENT OF THE SENATE.

18 (3) (I) THE TERM OF AN APPOINTED MEMBER IS 4 YEARS.

19 (II) THE TERMS OF THE APPOINTED MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS
20 REQUIRED BY THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR AN APPOINTED MEMBER ON OCTOBER 1,
21 2000.

22 (III) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE
23 UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.

24 (C) THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING SHALL SERVE AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
25 ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

26 (D) THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL MEET AT LEAST ONCE EVERY 3
27 MONTHS, AT A DATE AND TIME DETERMINED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING.

28 (E) A MEMBER OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON QUALITY OF LIFE
29 INDICATORS:

30 (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE ADVISORY
31 COMMITTEE; BUT

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

3 5-5A-03.

4 (A) THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATORS SHALL
5 DEVELOP A SYSTEM THAT:

6 (1) MEASURES THE PROGRESS OF MARYLAND CITIZENS IN ACHIEVING
7 AN OPTIMUM QUALITY OF LIFE; AND

8 (2) IDENTIFIES APPROPRIATE INDICATORS TO SHOW THE IMPACT OF
9 LEGAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES ON THE QUALITY OF
10 LIFE OF MARYLAND CITIZENS.

11 (B) (1) THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL DEVELOP A PORTRAIT OF A
12 ROBUST MARYLAND THAT CAPTURES AND EMBODIES WHAT MARYLAND CITIZENS
13 ENVISION AND SEEK AS A LIFE OF QUALITY.

14 (2) IN DEVELOPING THE PORTRAIT OF A ROBUST MARYLAND, THE
15 ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

16 (I) MAY USE ALL OR PART OF:

17 1. ANY PLAN DEVELOPED BY THE OFFICE OF PLANNING
18 UNDER SUBTITLE 4 OF THIS TITLE;

19 2. ANY OTHER PLAN DEVELOPED BY A UNIT OF THE
20 EXECUTIVE BRANCH THAT IS DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE
21 CITIZENS OF THE STATE; OR

22 3. ANY MODEL OR PLAN DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A BASELINE
23 EVALUATION FOR EVALUATING THE IMPACT OF LEGAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND
24 ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES ON QUALITY OF LIFE; AND

25 (II) SHALL HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS IN LOCATIONS AROUND THE
26 STATE, AS DETERMINED APPROPRIATE BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, TO SOLICIT
27 SUGGESTIONS BY CITIZENS OF THE STATE ON PROCEDURES TO BE USED AND ITEMS
28 TO BE INCLUDED IN DEVELOPING THE PORTRAIT.

29 (3) (I) THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL MAINTAIN THE PORTRAIT
30 OF A ROBUST MARYLAND AND SHALL UPDATE THE PORTRAIT AT TIMES AND IN A
31 MANNER THAT THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE.

32 (II) BEFORE UPDATING THE PORTRAIT OF A ROBUST MARYLAND,
33 THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS AT TIMES AND IN
34 LOCATIONS THAT THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE TO SOLICIT
35 PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE CHANGES PROPOSED.

1 (4) IN DEVELOPING THE PORTRAIT OF A ROBUST MARYLAND, THE
2 ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL INCLUDE GOALS RELATING TO:

3 (I) FAMILY STABILITY;

4 (II) THE SEVERITY AND INCIDENCE OF CRIME;

5 (III) ENVIRONMENTAL ASSETS, INCLUDING:

6 1. OPEN SPACE AND LAND USED FOR RECREATIONAL
7 PURPOSES;

8 2. WATER QUALITY;

9 3. AIR QUALITY;

10 4. FARMLAND;

11 5. WETLANDS; AND

12 6. FOREST AND OTHER WOODED AREAS;

13 (IV) TRAFFIC FLOW, EFFICIENCY, AND PATTERNS;

14 (V) THE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF LEISURE TIME;

15 (VI) EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES;

16 (VII) VOLUNTEER AND CHARITABLE EFFORT;

17 (VIII) STATE TOURISM;

18 (IX) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; AND

19 (X) ANY OTHER GOAL THAT THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
20 DETERMINES IS APPROPRIATE.

21 (C) AFTER DEVELOPING THE PORTRAIT, THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL
22 DEVELOP INDICATORS THAT IT SHALL USE TO MEASURE PROGRESS IN ACHIEVING
23 THE GOALS DEVELOPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B)(4) OF THIS SECTION.

24 (D) THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MAY:

25 (1) IN DEVELOPING A BASELINE VALUE FOR MEASURING QUALITY OF
26 LIFE IN THE STATE, USE:

27 (I) THE GROSS STATE PRODUCT DEVELOPED FOR THE STATE OF
28 MARYLAND BY THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE; OR

29 (II) A SIMILAR MEASURE OR INDEX; AND

1 (2) DEVELOP AND ASSIGN MONETARY VALUES TO THE QUALITY OF LIFE
2 INDICATORS THAT REFLECT ENHANCEMENTS TO OR SUBTRACTIONS FROM THE
3 BASELINE VALUE.

4 (E) (1) IN DEVELOPING THE PORTRAIT OF A ROBUST MARYLAND AND THE
5 QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATORS, THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MAY CONSULT WITH:

6 (I) STATE AND NATIONAL PRIVATE GROUPS ENGAGED IN
7 DEVELOPING:

8 1. OBJECTIVE MEASURES OF QUALITY OF LIFE; AND

9 2. SYSTEMS AND MEASURES RELATING TO "SUSTAINABLE
10 COMMUNITY", "GENUINE PROGRESS", AND SIMILAR CONCEPTS;

11 (II) STATE AND NATIONAL UNITS OF GOVERNMENT NOT
12 REPRESENTED ON THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE; AND

13 (III) ANY OTHER JURISDICTION THAT HAS DEVELOPED A SYSTEM
14 OF INDICATORS FOR MEASURING QUALITY OF LIFE.

15 (2) THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATORS
16 SHALL HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS EACH YEAR IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS AROUND THE
17 STATE, AS DETERMINED NECESSARY BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, TO SOLICIT
18 SUGGESTIONS BY LOCAL CITIZENS FOR APPROPRIATE INDICATORS TO BE INCLUDED
19 IN THE SYSTEM OF INDICATORS.

20 5-5A-04.

21 (A) THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATORS SHALL
22 DEVELOP A FULLY FUNCTIONING PORTRAIT OF A ROBUST MARYLAND AND AN
23 INITIAL SET OF QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATORS ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2002.

24 (B) AFTER DEVELOPING THE PORTRAIT AND THE INITIAL SET OF
25 INDICATORS, THE OFFICE OF PLANNING SHALL:

26 (1) USE THE PORTRAIT AND INDICATORS TO MEASURE THE IMPACT OF
27 LEGAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES ON QUALITY OF LIFE
28 IN THE STATE; AND

29 (2) REPORT EACH YEAR, ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, TO THE GOVERNOR
30 AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE
31 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ON:

32 (I) THE IMPACT OF LEGAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND
33 ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES ON QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE STATE; AND

34 (II) THE PROGRESS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
35 IN DEVELOPING AND MAINTAINING THE PORTRAIT OF A ROBUST MARYLAND AND
36 THE QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATORS.

1 (C) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2002, THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL
2 CONSULT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES TO DETERMINE
3 WHETHER THE IMPACT OF THE FOLLOWING ON THE QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATORS
4 CAN BE EVALUATED AND MEASURED:

5 (1) BEGINNING IN THE 2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION, THE IMPACT OF
6 ADMINISTRATION AND DEPARTMENTAL LEGISLATION FILED FOR CONSIDERATION
7 BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, BASED ON STATEMENTS PREPARED BY THE
8 SPONSORING ENTITY OR UNIT OF GOVERNMENT;

9 (2) BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2003, THE IMPACT OF PROPOSED AND
10 EMERGENCY REGULATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR REVIEW
11 UNDER TITLE 10, SUBTITLE 1 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, BASED ON
12 STATEMENTS PREPARED BY THE UNIT OF GOVERNMENT PROPOSING THE
13 REGULATIONS; AND

14 (3) BEGINNING IN THE 2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION, THE IMPACT OF:

15 (I) PROPOSED STATE LOANS AND GRANTS TO BUSINESS ENTITIES
16 FOR PURPOSES RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, BASED ON STATEMENTS
17 PREPARED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; AND

18 (II) LEGISLATION PROPOSING STATE TAX EXEMPTIONS AND
19 CREDITS.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the three members of the
21 Advisory Committee on Quality of Life Indicators appointed by the Governor under
22 this Act shall be appointed on or before October 15, 2000. The terms of the members
23 serving on October 15 shall expire as follows:

24 (1) one in 2002;

25 (2) one in 2003; and

26 (3) one in 2004.

27 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before June 30,
28 2001, the Advisory Committee on Quality of Life Indicators shall develop an initial
29 Portrait of a Robust Maryland and report the contents of the Portrait to the Governor
30 and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General
31 Assembly. The General Assembly may review and comment on the contents of the
32 Portrait, and may make additional suggestions for inclusion in the Portrait, on or
33 before September 30, 2001.

34 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before December
35 15, 2001, the Advisory Committee on Quality of Life Indicators shall develop the
36 initial list of quality of life indicators. The General Assembly may review and
37 comment on the list of indicators, and may make additional suggestions for inclusion
38 in the list, on or before April 15, 2002. After April 15, 2002, the Office of Planning

1 shall use the quality of life indicators to measure progress toward meeting the goals
2 set forth in the Portrait of a Robust Maryland.

3 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2000. It shall remain effective for a period of 10 years and, at the end of
5 September 30, 2010, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
6 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.