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By: **Eastern Shore Delegation, Southern Maryland Delegation, Western Maryland Delegation, and Harford County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2000

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Resource Based Industry in Maryland - Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force on Resource Based Industry in  
4 Maryland to examine the need for, and the feasibility of, establishing a certain  
5 financing development authority; requiring the Task Force to submit a certain  
6 report on or before a certain date; providing for the membership of the Task  
7 Force; requiring the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House  
8 jointly to appoint the co-chairs of the Task Force; requiring the Department of  
9 Legislative Services to staff the Task Force; providing that a member of the Task  
10 Force may not be compensated but may receive travel expenses; and generally  
11 relating to establishing a Task Force on Resource Based Industry in Maryland.

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
13 MARYLAND, That:

14 (a) There is a Task Force on Resource Based Industry in Maryland.

15 (b) The Task Force shall consist of the following members:

16 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President  
17 of the Senate;

18 (2) two members of the Maryland House of Delegates, appointed by the  
19 Speaker of the House;

20 (3) the Secretary of Business and Economic Development, or the  
21 Secretary's designee;

22 (4) the Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee;

23 (5) the Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary's designee;

24 (6) the Director of the Maryland Cooperative Extension, or the Director's  
25 designee;

26 (7) the Chair of the Forum for Rural Maryland, or the Chair's designee;

1 (8) the Chair of the Maryland Forestry Task Force, or the Chair's  
2 designee;

3 (9) a representative of the Western Maryland "One Maryland" Task  
4 Force, selected by the members of the Western Maryland Task Force;

5 (10) a representative of the Eastern Shore "One Maryland" Task Force,  
6 selected by the members of the Eastern Shore Task Force; and

7 (11) five members appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and  
8 the Speaker of the House to represent each of the following rural industry sectors:

9 (i) agriculture;

10 (ii) forestry;

11 (iii) fisheries;

12 (iv) mineral extraction; and

13 (v) rural commercial finance or lending.

14 (c) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall jointly  
15 designate two of the members as co-chairs of the Task Force.

16 (d) The Task Force shall:

17 (1) examine the need for, and the feasibility of, establishing a financing  
18 development authority to assist Maryland's farming, fishing, forestry, and mining  
19 extraction industries with loans, financing, training, and technical and business  
20 planning assistance services;

21 (2) consider the types of loans, financing, training, technical and  
22 business planning assistance services, and other programs that a financing  
23 development authority should implement;

24 (3) consider the amount in which a financing development authority  
25 should be funded;

26 (4) consider whether the financing development authority should be an  
27 independent State government entity or be incorporated into an existing State  
28 government agency;

29 (5) develop recommendations regarding the establishment of the  
30 financing development authority; and

31 (6) report its recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with  
32 § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly on or before  
33 November 1, 2001.

1 (e) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff support for the  
2 Task Force.

3 (f) A member of the Task Force:

4 (1) may not receive compensation; but

5 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
6 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
8 October 1, 2000.