

SENATE BILL 710

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2000 Regular Session
0lr1885

By: **Senators Pinsky and Exum**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2000

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Mosquito-Borne Public Health Hazards**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study Mosquito-Borne Public Health

4 Hazards; establishing duties of the Task Force; establishing membership of the

5 Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and

6 recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly; providing for the

7 termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study

8 Mosquito-Borne Public Health Hazards.

9 BY adding to

10 Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative Departments

11 Section 18-317

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative Departments**

17 18-317.

18 (A) THERE IS A TASK FORCE TO STUDY MOSQUITO-BORNE PUBLIC HEALTH

19 HAZARDS.

20 (B) THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

21 (1) THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, OR THE

22 SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

23 (2) THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

24 (3) THE SECRETARY OF THE ENVIRONMENT, OR THE SECRETARY'S

25 DESIGNEE;

1 (4) THE SECRETARY OF NATURAL RESOURCES, OR THE SECRETARY'S
2 DESIGNEE;

3 (5) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM A STATEWIDE ENVIRONMENTAL
4 ORGANIZATION SPECIALIZING IN ISSUES OF PESTICIDES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION,
5 NOMINATED BY THE CITIZEN'S CAMPAIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND SELECTED
6 BY THE GOVERNOR;

7 (6) TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY
8 DEALING WITH ISSUES OF PESTICIDES, SELECTED BY THE GOVERNOR, INCLUDING:

9 (I) ONE TO BE NOMINATED BY THE FARM BUREAU; AND

10 (II) ONE TO BE NOMINATED BY THE MARYLAND FOOD AND
11 FARMERS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING ORGANIC FARMERS; AND

12 (7) TWO LICENSED PHYSICIANS TO BE NOMINATED BY THE AMERICAN
13 ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS.

14 (C) THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TASK FORCE.

15 (D) THE TASK FORCE SHALL:

16 (1) ESTABLISH THE CRITERIA FOR DEFINING MOSQUITO-BORNE PUBLIC
17 HEALTH HAZARDS;

18 (2) ESTABLISH METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING AND MONITORING THE
19 DISEASE VECTORS;

20 (3) ESTABLISH THRESHOLDS FOR INTERVENTION TO CONTROL
21 INFECTED MOSQUITOS OR DISEASE CARRIERS;

22 (4) ESTABLISH THE LEAST TOXIC STRATEGIES TO PREVENT
23 INFESTATIONS;

24 (5) ESTABLISH METHODS THAT UTILIZE BIOLOGICAL, MECHANICAL,
25 AND CULTURAL PRACTICES;

26 (6) ESTABLISH PROCEDURES THAT ENSURE PUBLIC RIGHT-TO-KNOW
27 NOTICE BEFORE PESTICIDES ARE USED;

28 (7) ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR TRANSFERRING DECISION MAKING
29 POWER FOR MANAGING MOSQUITO-BORNE HEALTH HAZARDS SOLELY FROM THE
30 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO AN OVERSIGHT COORDINATING COMMITTEE
31 MADE UP OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL
32 HYGIENE, DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, AND DEPARTMENT OF
33 AGRICULTURE; AND

34 (8) ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR EXEMPTING ORGANIC FARMERS
35 FROM PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS.

1 (E) MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION
2 EXCEPT THAT THE MEMBERS MAY BE REIMBURSED FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE
3 STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

4 (F) THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5 AND MENTAL HYGIENE SHALL PROVIDE STAFF SUPPORT FOR THE TASK FORCE TO
6 THE EXTENT POSSIBLE WITHIN EXISTING BUDGETED RESOURCES.

7 (G) THE TASK FORCE SHALL ISSUE A FINAL REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS,
8 RECOMMENDATIONS, AND COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY TO THE GOVERNOR AND,
9 SUBJECT TO § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2001.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 October 1, 2000. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 8 months and, at
13 the end of May 31, 2002, with no further action required by the General Assembly,
14 this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.