

BY: Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 495

(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike “Voter Restoration Act of 2001” and substitute “Task Force to Study Repealing the Disenfranchisement of Convicted Felons in Maryland”; strike beginning with “altering” in line 3 down through “State” in line 13, and substitute “establishing a Task Force to Study Repealing the Disenfranchisement of Convicted Felons; specifying the composition, powers, and duties of the Task Force; providing for the staffing of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by a certain date; and generally relating to a Task Force to Study Repealing the Disenfranchisement of Convicted Felons in Maryland”; and strike in their entirety lines 14 through 18, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, in line 20, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”; and after line 20, insert:

“(a) There is a Task Force to Study Repealing the Disenfranchisement of Convicted Felons in Maryland.

(b) The Task Force shall consist of the following 11 members:

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

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

(3) the Chairman of the State Board of Elections, or the Chairman’s designee;

(4) the Director of the Maryland Division of Parole and Probation, or the

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Director's Designee;

(5) a member of the Maryland Attorney General's Office, appointed by the Attorney General;

(6) the President of the Maryland Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or the President's designee;

(7) the President of the Baltimore Urban League, or the President's designee;

(8) the President of the League of Voters of Maryland, or the President's designee; and

(9) a representative of a victims' rights group, appointed by the Governor.

(c) The Chairman of the Task Force shall be designated jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

(d) The Task Force shall study the national consensus as it relates to felons convicted more than once for crimes other than voter fraud, and how such convictions affect their right to vote.

(e) The State Board of Elections and the Maryland Attorney General's Office shall provide staff for the Task Force.

(f) On or before December 31, 2001, the Task Force shall report its findings to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly for consideration by the General Assembly in the 2002 Session.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 2, strike in their entirety, lines 1 through 22, inclusive; and in line 27, strike “October” and substitute “July”.