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By: Delegates D'Amato and Clagett

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2001

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

Task Force on Mercury Discharge and Control

2	Task Force on Mercury	Discharge and	Control

- ${\small 3\>\>\>} FOR \ the \ purpose \ of \ establishing \ a \ Task \ Force \ on \ Mercury \ Discharge \ and \ Control; \\$
- 4 providing for certain membership, duties, and staffing of the Task Force;
- 5 providing for the designation of a chairman of the Task Force; requiring the
- Task Force to issue a certain report by a certain date; prohibiting a member of
- 7 the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, and authorizing a member
- 8 to receive certain reimbursements; providing for the termination of this Act; and
- 9 generally relating to the Task Force on Mercury Discharge and Control.
- 10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
- 11 MARYLAND, That:
- 12 (a) There is a Task Force on Mercury Discharge and Control.
- 13 (b) The Task Force consists of the following 15 members:
- 14 (1) Two members of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker of
- 15 the House:
- 16 (2) Two members of the Senate of Maryland appointed by the President
- 17 of the Senate;
- 18 (3) The Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary's designee;
- 19 (4) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's
- 20 designee; and
- 21 (5) Nine members appointed by the Governor as follows:
- 22 (i) Seven representatives of businesses and professions that
- 23 utilize, discharge, or dispose of significant amounts of mercury:
- 24 1. One of whom shall represent a power plant;
- 25 One of whom shall represent a municipal waste
- 26 incinerator;

## **HOUSE BILL 523**

1 2	that discharges mercur	ry;	3.	One of whom shall represent a manufacturing industry	
3	that utilize mercury in	their ope	4. erations;	Two of whom shall represent businesses or professions	
5 6	treatment works; and		5.	Two of whom shall represent operators of publicly owned	
7 8	sewage sludge or incir	nerator as	6. sh is appl	One of whom shall represent operators of landfills where ied;	
9		(ii)	One rep	resentative of the environmental community; and	
10		(iii)	One rep	resentative of the public health community.	
11	(c) The Gov	ernor sh	all design	ate the Chairman of the Task Force.	
12	2 (d) The Task Force shall:				
13 14				ge of mercury in effluent from publicly owned f mercury discharge, including:	
	(i) The use of mercury in the manufacture of any consumer product or provision of any service, and the relative contributions of these different sources of mercury to overall mercury levels;				
	(ii) A comparison of State required testing methods for mercury with the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Test Method 1631, as defined in 40 C.F.R. 136.3 Table 1B; and				
21 22	risks posed by mercur	(iii) y discha		are, location, and extent of health and environmental	
23 24	(2) discharges, including:		commen	dations regarding appropriate controls of mercury	
25		(i)	An acce	ptable limit on:	
26 27	entities and businesse	s; and	1.	The discharge of mercury from private and publicly owned	
28 29	incinerator ash;		2.	The concentration of mercury in sewage sludge and	
30 31		(ii) for each		ment standards that reflect the best available of source determined to discharge mercury;	
32		(iii)	The dev	elopment and implementation of:	

## **HOUSE BILL 523**

1 2	1. treatment works that discharge wastewa	A monitoring program to identify users of publicly owned ater containing mercury;			
3 4	2. materials containing mercury; and	A mercury collection program to encourage the recycling of			
5 6	3. 5 pollution; and	A voluntary program to prevent and reduce mercury			
9	(iv) A plan to provide educational information to the general public regarding mercury discharges, the sources of mercury discharges, and associated health and environmental risks, including the feasibility of enclosing inserts in customer billing statements; and				
	- (-)	port of its findings and recommendations to the ne State Government Article, to the General 02.			

- 14 (e) The Department of the Environment, in cooperation with other
- 15 appropriate State agencies, shall provide staff support for the Task Force.
- 16 (f) A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation for serving on
- 17 the Task Force, but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
- 18 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- 19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
- 20 July 1, 2001. It shall remain effective for a period of eight months and, at the end of
- 21 February 28, 2002, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act
- 22 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.