
By: **Delegate Stern**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2001

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Utilization of Health Care Services by Men**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study the Utilization of Health Care
4 Services by Men; providing for the composition and meetings of the Task Force;
5 establishing terms for members of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to
6 review existing health care programs for men and assess the need for additional
7 programs; providing certain reimbursement for travel expenses; providing for
8 the termination of the Task Force; providing certain staff support for the Task
9 Force with certain limitations; requiring an annual report; and generally
10 relating to a Task Force to Study the Utilization of Health Care Services by
11 Men.

12 BY adding to

13 Article - Health - General

14 Section 13-1601 through 13-1604, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle

15 "Subtitle 16. Task Force to Study the Utilization of Health Care Services
16 by Men"

17 Annotated Code of Maryland

18 (2000 Replacement Volume)

19 Preamble

20 WHEREAS, Statistics indicate that men have a predisposition to underutilize
21 health care services; and

22 WHEREAS, There is little information known about why men do not utilize
23 health care services to the fullest possible extent; and

24 WHEREAS, Access and utilization of medical care are key determinants of
25 health status; and

26 WHEREAS, Statistics indicate that men, on average, have a life span that is 6
27 years less than that of women; and

1 WHEREAS, There is a societal benefit to finding ways to encourage men to
2 utilize health care services; now, therefore,

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

5 **Article - Health - General**

6 SUBTITLE 16. TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE UTILIZATION OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES
7 BY MEN.

8 13-1601.

9 THERE IS A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE UTILIZATION OF HEALTH CARE
10 SERVICES BY MEN IN THE DEPARTMENT.

11 13-1602.

12 (A) THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF 13 MEMBERS.

13 (B) THE MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE ARE:

14 (1) TWO MEMBERS FROM THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY
15 THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

16 (2) TWO MEMBERS FROM THE SENATE OF MARYLAND, APPOINTED BY
17 THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE; AND

18 (3) NINE MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, AS FOLLOWS:

19 (I) ONE LICENSED PHYSICIAN FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF
20 MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE WHO SPECIALIZES IN TREATING DISEASES OF
21 MEN;

22 (II) ONE LICENSED PHYSICIAN FROM THE JOHNS HOPKINS
23 UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE WHO SPECIALIZES IN TREATING DISEASES OF
24 MEN;

25 (III) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
26 MENTAL HYGIENE;

27 (IV) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
28 RESOURCES;

29 (V) ONE LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER;

30 (VI) ONE REGISTERED NURSE;

31 (VII) ONE LICENSED PSYCHIATRIST;

32 (VIII) ONE CONSUMER MEMBER; AND

1 (IX) ONE MEMBER FROM THE ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS UNITED
2 SENIORS OF MARYLAND.

3 (C) THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE ONE OF THE MEMBERS AS CHAIRMAN
4 OF THE TASK FORCE.

5 (D) WHEN THERE IS A VACANCY ON THE TASK FORCE, A SUCCESSOR SHALL BE
6 APPOINTED PROMPTLY.

7 (E) THE TASK FORCE SHALL DETERMINE THE TIME AND PLACE OF ITS
8 MEETINGS.

9 (F) A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE PRESENT SHALL
10 CONSTITUTE A QUORUM.

11 (G) A MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL SERVE FOR A TERM OF 3 YEARS.

12 (H) A MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE:

13 (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION; BUT

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

16 13-1603.

17 (A) THE TASK FORCE SHALL EXAMINE THE PATTERNS OF UTILIZATION OF
18 HEALTH CARE SERVICES BY MEN, INCLUDING:

19 (1) THE AVAILABILITY OF PROGRAMS FOR MEN THAT ENCOURAGE
20 UTILIZATION OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES;

21 (2) THE ADEQUACY OF EXISTING PROGRAMS FOR MEN'S HEALTH CARE
22 NEEDS; AND

23 (3) ANY OTHER ASPECT OF UTILIZATION OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES BY
24 MEN THAT IT DEEMS APPROPRIATE.

25 (B) BEGINNING ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2002, THE TASK FORCE SHALL
26 ISSUE A REPORT ANNUALLY WITH ITS RECOMMENDATIONS AND FINDINGS TO THE
27 GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT
28 ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

29 13-1604.

30 SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THE STATE BUDGET, THE DEPARTMENT
31 SHALL PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT TO THE TASK
32 FORCE.

33 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
34 October 1, 2001. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of

- 1 September 30, 2004, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
- 2 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.