

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 14

Unofficial Copy
M1

2001 Regular Session
(11r0868)

ENROLLED RESOLUTION

-- Appropriations/Economic and Environmental Affairs --

Introduced by **Delegates Kopp, Barkley, Bronrott, Cadden, Clagett, Conroy, Cryor, D'Amato, Dypski, Goldwater, Grosfeld, Harrison, Howard, Hubbard, Hubers, Hurson, Love, Mandel, McIntosh, Menes, Morhaim, Petzold, and Shriver**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, ____ M.

Speaker.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Lighting Efficiency and Light Pollution in Maryland**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to study the cost, extent, and
4 consequences of inefficient public lighting and light pollution in the State and
5 benefits of alternative improvements; providing for the membership and
6 appointment of the Task Force; providing for the duties of the Task Force;
7 requiring the Department of General Services to coordinate the professional and
8 administrative support of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report to
9 the General Assembly by a certain date; and generally relating to the Task Force
10 to Study Lighting Efficiency and Light Pollution in Maryland.

11 WHEREAS, State and local governments and other public bodies, including the
12 University System of Maryland, spend millions of dollars each year on lighting roads,
13 buildings, and campuses and are also responsible for setting lighting standards and
14 policies throughout the State; and

1 WHEREAS, Too often public funds are spent on lighting which is not optimally
2 efficient, can waste both funds and energy, causes glare which does not enhance
3 public safety and often causes light trespass and light pollution, and can threaten the
4 very survival of amateur and professional astronomy, thereby reducing opportunity
5 for children and others to appreciate the beauties of the night sky; and

6 WHEREAS, Good lighting policies save public funds while enhancing public
7 safety; and

8 WHEREAS, Several agencies of State and local government have begun
9 individually and separately to examine lighting policies and standards with the goal
10 of enhancing efficiency, reducing cost, and reducing pollution, and would benefit from
11 a joint examination of the problems and opportunities inherent in improved policies
12 and practices and in exchange of information with experts such as representatives of
13 the standards-setting Illuminating ~~Engineers Association~~ Engineering Society of
14 North America; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That there is a
16 Task Force to study the cost, extent, causes, and consequences of current public
17 lighting standards and policies, light pollution, and the benefits of alternative policies
18 in Maryland; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall be composed of ~~22~~ 23 members, as
20 follows:

21 (1) Two members from the Senate of Maryland, designated by the
22 President of the Senate;

23 (2) Two members from the House of Delegates, designated by the
24 Speaker of the House;

25 (3) One representative from the Department of the Environment,
26 designated by the Secretary;

27 (4) One representative from the Department of Natural Resources,
28 designated by the Secretary;

29 (5) One representative from the Department of General Services,
30 designated by the Secretary;

31 (6) One representative from the Maryland Energy Administration,
32 designated by the Director;

33 (7) One representative from the University System of Maryland,
34 designated by the Chancellor of the University;

35 (8) The Dean of the College of Computer, Mathematical and Physical
36 Sciences of the University of Maryland, College Park, or the Dean's designee;

1 (9) Two representatives from the Maryland Department of
 2 Transportation, ~~including the Bicycle and Pedestrian Director and an official involved~~
 3 ~~in the State Highway lighting program~~, designated by the Secretary of
 4 Transportation;

5 (10) One representative from the Department of Business and Economic
 6 Development, designated by the Secretary;

7 (11) One representative from a County currently officially examining
 8 lighting policy and standards, designated by the Maryland Association of Counties;

9 (12) One representative of a municipality currently officially examining
 10 local lighting policy and standards, designated by the Maryland Municipal League;

11 (13) One representative from the Illuminating Engineering Society of
 12 North America, designated by the Executive Director of the Society;

13 (14) ~~Six~~ Seven members appointed by the Governor as follows:

14 (i) One representative of the professional astronomy community;

15 (ii) One representative of the amateur astronomy community;

16 (iii) One representative of an environmental group with expertise in
 17 the effects of artificial light on wildlife;

18 (iv) One representative of the public electric utility industry with a
 19 major role in road or exterior lighting;

20 (v) One representative of State or local law enforcement; ~~and~~

21 (vi) One representative from science educators at the secondary
 22 school level; and

23 (vii) One expert in human reactions to artificial light; and be it
 24 further

25 RESOLVED, That the Governor shall designate the Chairman of the Task Force;
 26 and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the Department of General Services shall coordinate with
 28 other State agencies, including the University of Maryland, to provide professional
 29 and administrative support to the Task Force; and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That a member of the Task Force:

31 (1) May not receive compensation; but

32 (2) Is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
 33 Travel Regulations as provided in the State budget; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall:

2 (1) Estimate the potential fiscal and energy costs and savings, including
3 the potential impact on the State budget and the budgets of county and municipal
4 jurisdictions in the State, associated with the adoption of lighting practices that
5 minimize inefficient lighting, light pollution, and energy waste while meeting
6 important illumination and safety lighting requirements; and

7 (2) Study and document the benefits of lighting to the public, including
8 those who use Maryland's highways, airways, and other travelways, and the
9 consequences of light pollution in Maryland, including its impact on driving safety,
10 general community safety, birds and other nocturnal fauna, astronomical research
11 observation, the natural beauty of the night sky, and any other consequences the Task
12 Force determines are appropriate for its attention;

13 (3) Survey and document the technology and standards currently
14 available to minimize light pollution; and

15 (4) Prepare recommendations for public and private action to enhance
16 lighting efficiency and minimize light pollution in Maryland, including, but not
17 limited to, appropriate standards or policies for consideration by appropriate State
18 agencies, counties, or municipal corporations in the State; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall issue a preliminary report of its findings
20 and recommendations to the General Assembly, subject to § 2-1246 of the State
21 Government Article, on or before October 15, 2001, and shall issue a final report of its
22 findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before February 1,
23 2002; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
25 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;
26 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and
27 the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates.