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By: **Senator Middleton (Chairman, Task Force on Resource Based Industry in Maryland) and Senator Stoltzfus**

Introduced and read first time: January 17, 2001  
Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Resource Based Industry in Maryland - Membership,**  
3 **Staffing, and Reporting Requirements**

4 FOR the purpose of modifying the nature of a certain required report of the Task  
5 Force on Resource Based Industry in Maryland; requiring the Task Force to  
6 submit a certain report, based on a certain assessment, on or before a certain  
7 date; adding to the membership of the Task Force; requiring the State  
8 Department of Agriculture, the Department of Business and Economic  
9 Development, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Maryland Food  
10 Center Authority to provide certain assistance to the Task Force at certain  
11 times; providing for the termination of the Act that created the Task Force; and  
12 generally relating to the Task Force on Resource Based Industry in Maryland.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Chapter 433 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2000  
15 Section 1 and 2

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

18 **Chapter 433 of the Acts of 2000**

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
20 MARYLAND, That:

21 (a) There is a Task Force on Resource Based Industry in Maryland.

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

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

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

- 1           (3)     the Secretary of Business and Economic Development, or the  
2 Secretary's designee;
- 3           (4)     the Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee;
- 4           (5)     the Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary's designee;
- 5           (6)     THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND FOOD CENTER  
6 AUTHORITY, OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;
- 7           (7)     the Director of the Maryland Cooperative Extension, or the Director's  
8 designee;
- 9           [(7)]   (8)     the Chair of the Forvm for Rural Maryland, or the Chair's  
10 designee;
- 11          [(8)]   (9)     the Chair of the Maryland Forestry Task Force, or the Chair's  
12 designee;
- 13          [(9)]   (10)    a representative of the Western Maryland "One Maryland" Task  
14 Force, selected by the members of the Western Maryland Task Force;
- 15          [(10)]   (11)    a representative of the Eastern Shore "One Maryland" Task  
16 Force, selected by the members of the Eastern Shore Task Force; and
- 17          [(11)]   (12)    five members appointed jointly by the President of the Senate  
18 and the Speaker of the House to represent each of the following rural industry  
19 sectors:
- 20                   (i)     agriculture;
- 21                   (ii)    forestry;
- 22                   (iii)   fisheries;
- 23                   (iv)    mineral extraction; and
- 24                   (v)     rural commercial finance or lending.
- 25   (c)     The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall jointly  
26 designate two of the members as co-chairs of the Task Force.
- 27   (d)     The Task Force shall:
- 28           (1)     examine the need for, and the feasibility of, establishing a financing  
29 development authority to assist Maryland's farming, fishing, forestry, and mining  
30 extraction industries with loans, financing, training, and technical and business  
31 planning assistance services;

1 (2) consider the types of loans, financing, training, technical and  
2 business planning assistance services, and other programs that a financing  
3 development authority should implement;

4 (3) consider the amount in which a financing development authority  
5 should be funded;

6 (4) consider whether the financing development authority should be an  
7 independent State government entity or be incorporated into an existing State  
8 government agency;

9 (5) develop recommendations regarding the establishment of the  
10 financing development authority; [and]

11 (6) report its PRELIMINARY recommendations to the Governor and, in  
12 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly  
13 on or before December 1, 2000; AND

14 (7) BASED ON A COMPREHENSIVE INTERAGENCY ASSESSMENT OF THE  
15 NEEDS OF AFFECTED INDUSTRIES, INCLUDING ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, EXPECTED  
16 LEVEL OF DEMAND, TYPES OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, EXPECTED INVESTMENT  
17 RETURNS, AND PERFORMANCE EVALUATION MEASURES, REPORT ITS FINAL  
18 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF  
19 THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON OR BEFORE  
20 DECEMBER 31, 2001.

21 (e) The Department of Legislative Services, [in consultation with] WITH THE  
22 ASSISTANCE OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, the Department of  
23 Business and Economic Development, THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES,  
24 AND THE MARYLAND FOOD CENTER AUTHORITY, shall, AS NECESSARY, provide  
25 RESEARCH ASSISTANCE AND staff support for the Task Force.

26 (f) A member of the Task Force:

27 (1) may not receive compensation; but

28 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
29 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
31 July 1, 2000. IT SHALL REMAIN EFFECTIVE FOR A PERIOD OF 1 YEAR AND 7 MONTHS  
32 AND, AT THE END OF JANUARY 31, 2002, WITH NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED BY  
33 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THIS ACT SHALL BE ABROGATED AND OF NO FURTHER  
34 FORCE AND EFFECT.

35 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
36 July 1, 2001.