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By: **Senators Conway, Currie, Della, Exum, Frosh, Hollinger, Hughes,  
Kelley, Lawlah, McFadden, Mitchell, Pinsky, Sfikas, Teitelbaum, and  
Van Hollen**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2001  
Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Indoor Air Quality**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force on Indoor Air Quality; providing for  
4 certain membership, duties, and staffing of the Task Force; providing for the  
5 designation of a chairman of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to issue a  
6 certain report by a certain date; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from  
7 receiving certain compensation; authorizing a member to receive certain  
8 reimbursements; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally  
9 relating to the Task Force on Indoor Air Quality.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
11 MARYLAND, That:

12 (a) There is a Task Force on Indoor Air Quality.

13 (b) The Task Force consists of the following 13 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) The Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, or the Secretary's  
22 designee;

23 (6) Six members appointed by the Governor as follows:

24 (i) Two representatives of the heating, ventilation, and air  
25 conditioning (HVAC) repair industries;

1 (ii) Two representatives of not-for-profit organizations that focus  
2 on indoor air quality and related health issues; and

3 (iii) Two citizens affected by HVAC-related illnesses.

4 (c) The Governor shall designate the Chairman of the Task Force.

5 (d) The Task Force shall:

6 (1) Study the nature, location, and extent of health and environmental  
7 risks posed to workers as a result of molds, spores, and other toxic organisms located  
8 in the HVAC systems of office buildings, including:

9 (i) The relative risks associated with the manufacture,  
10 maintenance, and repair of HVAC systems;

11 (ii) Actual and projected costs for the medical treatment of  
12 HVAC-related illnesses; and

13 (iii) Actual and projected costs in loss of worker productivity  
14 because of HVAC-related illnesses;

15 (2) Make recommendations regarding:

16 (i) The prevention of workers' HVAC-related illnesses, including a  
17 monitoring program to identify the probable onset of HVAC-related illnesses and  
18 their underlying causes;

19 (ii) The institution of appropriate remedies and controls in office  
20 buildings that, because of the dangers of indoor air quality, expose workers to  
21 unwarranted health risks, including the best available treatment technology and the  
22 feasibility of voluntary prevention and pollution reduction programs;

23 (iii) A plan to provide educational information and, as may be  
24 necessary, warnings to affected workers regarding health and environmental risks  
25 associated with the indoor air quality of their office building sites; and

26 (iv) Legislative or regulatory measures that are necessary and  
27 appropriate to address current gaps in federal, State, and local protection of office  
28 workers from HVAC-borne toxins; and

29 (3) Submit a final report of its findings and recommendations to the  
30 Governor, and subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General  
31 Assembly, on or before July 1, 2002.

32 (e) The Department of the Environment, in cooperation with other  
33 appropriate State agencies, shall provide staff support for the Task Force.

34 (f) A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation for serving on  
35 the Task Force, but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard  
36 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2 July 1, 2001. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the  
3 end of July 31, 2002, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this  
4 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.