

SENATE BILL 399

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2001 Regular Session
(11r1597)

ENROLLED BILL

-- *Economic and Environmental Affairs/Ways and Means* --

Introduced by **Senators Middleton and Hoffman**

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.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Creation of a Task Force to Study Adult Education Services in**
3 **Maryland**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study Adult Education Services in
5 Maryland to ensure effective workers, family members, and citizens; *and*
6 generally relating to the establishment of a Task Force to Study Adult Education
7 Services in Maryland.

8 WHEREAS, Adult education includes instruction in basic skills, English as a
9 second language, General Equivalent Diploma (GED), and family literacy for adults
10 without a high school diploma; and

11 WHEREAS, There are approximately 770,000 adults currently residing in
12 Maryland who are without a high school diploma or its equivalent; and

13 WHEREAS, Only approximately 37,000 of these adults are being served by
14 presently existing adult education services; and

1 WHEREAS, There is a documented need in Maryland for a better educated
2 workforce, and the General Assembly believes that improved adult education would
3 help address that need; now, therefore,

4 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
5 MARYLAND, That:

6 (a) There shall be a Task Force to Study Adult Education Services in
7 Maryland.

8 (b) The Task Force shall be composed of:

9 (1) One member of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board,
10 appointed by the Governor;

11 (2) One representative of the Department of Business and Economic
12 Development, appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Business and
13 Economic Development;

14 (3) One representative of the Department of Labor, Licensing, and
15 Regulation, appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Labor, Licensing, and
16 Regulation;

17 (4) One representative of the Department of Human Resources,
18 appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources;

19 (5) Two local Literacy Works team administrators, appointed by the
20 State Superintendent of Schools;

21 (6) One representative of family literacy programs, appointed by the
22 State Superintendent of Schools;

23 (7) At least two county superintendents active in adult education,
24 appointed by the State Superintendent of Schools;

25 (8) One representative of the State Advisory Committee for Adult
26 Education, appointed by the State Superintendent of Schools;

27 (9) One representative from a State community college, appointed by the
28 Secretary of the Maryland Higher Education Commission;

29 (10) One representative of a Local Workforce Investment Board,
30 appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation;

31 (11) One representative of the State Department of Education, appointed
32 by the State Superintendent of Schools;

33 (12) ~~A Regional Coordinator for the External Diploma Program;~~

34 ~~(13)~~ One representative of an organization or program serving
35 immigrants or new Americans, appointed by the Governor;

1 ~~(14)~~ (13) At least one representative from a ~~statewide~~ private sector
 2 association concerned with issues of adult education for adults without a high school
 3 degree or its equivalent ~~appointed by the State Superintendent of Schools;~~

4 ~~(15)~~ (14) One student enrolled in adult education, appointed by the State
 5 Superintendent of Schools;

6 ~~(16)~~ (15) One private sector employer, appointed by the Governor;

7 ~~(17)~~ (16) One labor union representative, appointed by the Governor;

8 ~~(18)~~ (17) One member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the
 9 Speaker of the House; and

10 ~~(19)~~ (18) One member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
 11 President of the Senate.

12 (c) The Governor shall designate a chairperson of the Task Force.

13 (d) Staff for the Task Force shall be provided by the State Department of
 14 Education.

15 (e) The Task Force shall study adult education issues, including:

16 (1) The statewide need for adult education services, including
 17 instruction for adults in basic skills, English as a second language for Speakers of
 18 Other Languages, and family literacy and preparation for the GED test and the adult
 19 external high school program;

20 (2) The impact of adult education on workforce economic development;

21 (3) The existing levels of service for adults without a high school diploma
 22 or its equivalent, on a county-by-county basis (including Baltimore City);

23 (4) The existing levels of adult education services for adults who are
 24 incarcerated or on probation;

25 ~~(4)~~ (5) The current funding process and level of funding for existing
 26 programs in each county and Baltimore City; and

27 ~~(5)~~ (6) A comparison between Maryland and other states in the region
 28 regarding levels of need, service provided, and funding.

29 (f) The Task Force shall submit a report summarizing its findings and
 30 recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before November
 31 1, 2001.

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

