

BY: Appropriations Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 937

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

In the sponsor line, strike “Delegate Busch” and substitute “Delegates Busch and Rudolph”; strike beginning with “State” in line 2 down through “Students” in line 3 and substitute “Task Force to Study Public School Facilities”; strike beginning with “requiring” in line 4 down through “students” in line 8 and substitute “establishing a Task Force to Study Public School Facilities; requiring the task force to submit findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of the task force on a certain date; providing for the abrogation of this Act; and generally relating to public school facilities”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

Strike in their entirety lines 11 through 21, inclusive, and substitute:

“(a) There is a Task Force to Study Public School Facilities.

(b) The task force shall review, evaluate, and make findings and recommendations regarding the following issues relating to the State's public school construction program:

(1) whether public school facilities are adequate to support programs funded through an adequate operating budget as proposed by the Commission on Education Finance, Equity, and Excellence in its January 2002 Final Report;

(2) the equity of the State's public school construction program, particularly the equity of the State and local cost shares for school construction projects;

(3) whether the Aging Schools Program should be continued as a permanent program;

(Over)

price meals;

(4) whether the State should provide a greater share of eligible costs for:

(i) schools with 50% or more of the students eligible for free and reduced

(ii) small schools constructed or renovated in a priority funding area; and

(iii) schools in qualified distressed counties as defined in Article 83A, § 5-701 of the Code; and

(5) any other matter that the task force determines to be relevant to an evaluation of the adequacy and equity of the State's public school construction program.

(c) The task force shall be composed of 21 members as follows:

(1) a chairman, appointed by the Governor;

(2) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the  
Senate;

(3) two members of the House of Delegates of Maryland, appointed by the  
Speaker of the House;

(4) the Executive Director of the Interagency Committee on School Construction;

(5) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent's designee;

(6) the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management, or the Secretary's  
designee;

(7) the Secretary of the Department of General Services, or the Secretary's  
designee;

(8) a member of the State Board of Education, appointed by the Governor;

(9) three representatives of county governments, appointed by the Governor;

(10) three representatives of local boards of education, appointed by the Governor;

(11) three educators who work in public schools in the State, appointed by the Governor; and

(12) two members of the public, appointed by the Governor.

(d) To the extent practicable, the Governor shall attempt to ensure regional, ethnic, economic, and gender diversity on the task force.

(e) The Interagency Committee on School Construction, the Maryland State Department of Education, the Department of Budget and Management, and the Department of Legislative Services, jointly, shall provide staff support to the task force.

(f) The task force shall:

(1) be appointed and begin its deliberations no later than June 1, 2002; and

(2) submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2002.

(g) The task force shall terminate on December 31, 2002.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2002. It shall remain in effect for a period of 7 months, and at the end of December 31, 2002, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.