

HOUSE BILL 1

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2002 Regular Session
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(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegates Hixson, Taylor, Arnick, Busch, Conway, Dewberry, Doory,
Harrison, Howard, Hurson, Kopp, McIntosh, Menes, Montague, Owings,
Rawlings, Rosenberg, Vallario, and Wood**

Requested: November 15, 2001

Introduced and read first time: January 9, 2002

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commission on Maryland's Fiscal Structure**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Commission on Maryland's Fiscal Structure;
4 requiring the Commission to review and evaluate the State's budget and fiscal
5 structure; requiring the Commission to make recommendations on changes to
6 the State budget process and the State tax structure; providing for the
7 membership of the Commission; providing for the staffing of the Commission;
8 requiring a final report by a certain date; and generally relating to the
9 Commission on Maryland's Fiscal Structure.

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

12 (a) There is a Commission on Maryland's Fiscal Structure.

13 (b) The Commission shall review and evaluate the State's current budget and
14 fiscal structure and make recommendations for:

15 (1) changes to the State budget process and procedures that would allow
16 for more effective development and enactment of the annual State budget;

17 (2) ensuring that the State will have a progressive tax structure,
18 including any changes that may be necessary to ensure equity and efficiency in the
19 State's tax system;

20 (3) new State and local revenue sources that may be considered in future
21 years; and

22 (4) changes to the State's tax structure that would allow the State to be
23 more competitive with surrounding states regarding economic development.

24 (c) The Commission shall be composed of 15 members as follows:

25 (1) a chairman appointed by the Governor;

1 (2) two members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee,
2 appointed by the President of the Senate;

3 (3) two members of the House Committee on Ways and Means, appointed
4 by the Speaker of the House of Delegates;

5 (4) two members of the House Appropriations Committee, appointed by
6 the Speaker of the House of Delegates;

7 (5) the Comptroller of the Treasury;

8 (6) the Secretary of the Department of Business and Economic
9 Development;

10 (7) the Director of the Department of Assessments and Taxation;

11 (8) the Superintendent of the State Department of Education;

12 (9) the Secretary of the Department of Transportation;

13 (10) the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management; and

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

15 (d) The Department of Legislative Services, the Department of Business and
16 Economic Development, and the Comptroller of the Treasury shall provide staff
17 support to the Commission.

18 (e) The Commission shall submit a report of its findings and
19 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
20 Government Article, to the General Assembly by November 1, 2003.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
22 effect July 1, 2002.