
By: **Delegates Klausmeier, Hurson, Owings, Taylor, Weir, O'Donnell,
Redmer, Bozman, Conway, Hubbard, Morhaim, McIntosh, Arnick,
Busch, Dewberry, Doory, Harrison, Hixson, Howard, Kopp, Menes,
Montague, Rawlings, Rosenberg, Vallario, and Wood**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2002
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Economic Development of the Maryland Seafood**
3 **Industry**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study the Economic Development of
5 the Maryland Seafood Industry; specifying the membership and duties of the
6 Task Force; requiring the Task Force to issue a report to the Governor and
7 certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date;
8 providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the
9 establishment of a Task Force to Study the Economic Development of the
10 Maryland Seafood Industry.

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

13 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Economic Development of the Maryland
14 Seafood Industry.

15 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

16 (1) four members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
17 the House;

18 (2) four members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President
19 of the Senate;

20 (3) the following members appointed by the Secretary of the Maryland
21 Department of Natural Resources or the Secretary's designee:

22 (i) one representative from the State Department of Agriculture;

23 (ii) one representative from the Department of Business and
24 Economic Development;

1 (iii) one representative from the Department of the Environment;

2 and

3 (iv) one representative from the Department of Natural Resources;

4 (4) the following members appointed by the Governor:

5 (i) one representative from an institution or institute in the
6 University System of Maryland;

7 (ii) one representative from the retail seafood industry; and

8 (iii) one member of the Maryland Watermen's Association.

9 (c) The Governor shall designate one of the members of the Task Force as
10 chairperson of the Task Force.

11 (d) The Task Force shall determine the time and place of its meetings.

12 (e) A member of the Task Force who misses two or more meetings of the Task
13 Force may not participate in the decision making process, reports, or
14 recommendations of the Task Force.

15 (f) A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation, but is entitled
16 to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as
17 provided in the State budget.

18 (g) The Task Force shall:

19 (1) study and develop methods of expanding the local and national
20 market for Maryland seafood;

21 (2) explore whether existing seafood marketing techniques are being
22 fully employed by the industry and, if not, what is needed to increase the use of these
23 techniques;

24 (3) study and develop innovative methods of producing seafood, for
25 example, aquaculture; and

26 (4) review the methods other states, including Alabama, Delaware,
27 North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, and Virginia, have
28 implemented to further develop their seafood industry.

29 (h) The State Department of Agriculture and the Department of Business and
30 Economic Development shall provide staff for the Task Force.

31 (i) On or before September 30, 2004, the Task Force shall report its findings
32 and recommendations to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State
33 Government Article, to the House Environmental Matters Committee and the Senate
34 Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 2002. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of
3 September 30, 2004, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
4 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.