

SENATE BILL 367

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M4

2003 Regular Session
(3r1397)

ENROLLED BILL

-- Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs/Environmental Matters --

Introduced by **Senators Dyson, Astle, Brinkley, Colburn, Conway, Della, Giannetti, Green, Greenip, Hafer, Haines, Harris, Hooper, Jacobs, Kittleman, Klausmeier, Kramer, Middleton, Miller, Munson, Pipkin, Schrader, Stoltzfus, and Stone**

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 **Task Force on the Marketing of Grain and Other Agricultural Products**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on the Marketing of Grain and Other
4 Agricultural Products; specifying the membership and duties of the Task Force;
5 requiring the Governor to designate a certain Task Force chairman; requiring
6 the Department of Agriculture to provide certain staffing; prohibiting a Task
7 Force member from receiving certain compensation and authorizing the receipt
8 of certain reimbursement; requiring the Task Force to report to certain persons
9 by a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally
10 relating to the establishment, membership, and duties of the Task Force on the
11 Marketing of Grain and Other Agricultural Products.

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

1 (a) There is a Task Force on the Marketing of Grain and Other Agricultural
2 Products.

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

4 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President
5 of the Senate;

6 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
7 the House;

8 (3) the Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee;

9 (4) the Secretary of Business and Economic Development, or the
10 Secretary's designee;

11 (5) the Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's designee;

12 (6) the Executive Director of the Maryland Port Administration, or the
13 Executive Director's designee;

14 (7) one member of the Maryland Farm Bureau;

15 (8) one member of the Maryland Grain Producers Association;

16 (9) one representative of MidAtlantic Farm Credit; and

17 (10) the following members appointed by the Governor:

18 (i) one representative of the ocean shipping industry;

19 ~~(10)~~ (ii) one representative of the trucking industry;

20 ~~(11)~~ (iii) one representative of the rail industry;

21 ~~(12)~~ (iv) one representative of the barge industry; and

22 ~~(13)~~ (v) two licensed grain dealers; and

23 ~~(14) one representative of MidAtlantic Farm Credit.~~

24 (c) The Governor shall designate the chairman of the Task Force.

25 (d) The Department of Agriculture shall provide staff for the Task Force.

26 (e) A member of the Task Force:

27 (1) may not receive compensation; but

28 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
29 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

1 (f) The Task Force shall:

2 (1) evaluate options and develop strategies for the marketing of grain,
3 particularly soybeans, and other State agricultural products, including an analysis of
4 the feasibility of:

5 (i) ~~rebuilding and reopening~~ reestablishing a grain export facility
6 at the Port of Baltimore Grain Terminal; and

7 (ii) ~~the establishment of~~ establishing new transport options from
8 alternative locations in Central Maryland;

9 (2) implement through the Maryland Port Administration a feasibility
10 study of the short-term and long-term economic viability of a grain shipping facility
11 at the Port of Baltimore, including the Locust Point Marine terminal, and evaluate
12 and make recommendations regarding the study;

13 ~~(2)~~ (3) examine potential costs to the State and private industry for
14 each option and strategy identified under paragraph (1) of this subsection;

15 ~~(3)~~ (4) examine potential funding sources for identified options and
16 strategies, including federal grant and loan programs, private loans and other
17 investment vehicles, and any other available funding mechanisms; and

18 ~~(4)~~ (5) solicit and encourage participation from other persons impacted
19 by the topics under study by the Task Force but not serving as Task Force members,
20 including farmers and other agriculturally related businesses in neighboring states
21 and members of Congress representing these regional interests.

22 (g) The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the
23 Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General
24 Assembly on or before December 31, 2003.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 June 1, 2003. It shall remain effective for a period of 8 months and, at the end of
27 January 31, 2004, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.