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By: **Delegates Myers, Bartlett, Bates, Cardin, Cryor, Elliott, Elmore, Frank, Gilleland, Goodwin, Heller, Hogan, Kaiser, King, McKee, Patterson, Ross, Shank, Sossi, and Weldon**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2004

Assigned to: Appropriations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2                                   **Task Force to Study the Feasibility of Using Standard School Construction**  
3                                   **Plans**

4 FOR the purpose of creating a Task Force to Study the Feasibility of Using Standard  
5 School Construction Plans; providing for the composition of the Task Force;  
6 requiring the Task Force to choose a chairman from among its members;  
7 requiring the Department of Education to provide staffing for the Task Force;  
8 prohibiting Task Force members from receiving compensation but entitling  
9 members to reimbursement for certain expenses under certain regulations;  
10 requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding the  
11 feasibility of developing and using standard school building construction plans;  
12 requiring the Task Force to develop certain criteria for standard construction  
13 plans including consideration of certain factors and to study certain costs and  
14 certain savings; requiring the Task Force to submit a certain report to the  
15 Governor and certain committees on or before a certain date; providing for the  
16 termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study the  
17 Feasibility of Using Standard School Construction Plans.

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
19 MARYLAND, That:

20       (a)       There is a Task Force to Study the Feasibility of Using Standard School  
21 Construction Plans.

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

23               (1)       one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
24 the Senate;

25               (2)       one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
26 the House;

27               (3)       one representative of the State Board of Education, appointed by the  
28 Chairman of the State Board of Education;

1 (4) one representative of the Interagency Committee on School  
2 Construction, appointed by the Chairman of the State Board of Education; and

3 (5) the following six members appointed by the Governor:

4 (i) three representatives of local boards of education representing  
5 an urban, suburban, and rural area of the State;

6 (ii) one architect with experience designing school buildings;

7 (iii) one contractor with experience constructing school buildings;  
8 and

9 (iv) one representative of the general public.

10 (c) The Task Force shall choose a chairman from among its members.

11 (d) The State Department of Education shall provide staff for the Task Force.

12 (e) A member of the Task Force:

13 (1) may not receive compensation; but

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

16 (f) The Task Force shall:

17 (1) study and make recommendations regarding the feasibility of  
18 developing and using standard school building construction plans for constructing all  
19 State school buildings;

20 (2) develop potential criteria for standard construction plans including  
21 consideration of the needs of urban, suburban, and rural schools;

22 (3) study projected costs of:

23 (i) plan development;

24 (ii) periodic updates to standard plans to account for various  
25 building and zoning code compliance;

26 (iii) complying with various levels of State and local government  
27 zoning and building codes; and

28 (iv) developing alternative plans for the individual needs of a school;  
29 and

30 (4) study the potential savings to the State and local school districts of  
31 using standard school building construction plans.

1 (g) The Task Force shall issue a report of its findings and recommendations to  
2 the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate  
3 Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, and the House Ways and  
4 Means Committee on or before December 1, 2004.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take  
6 effect July 1, 2004. It shall remain effective for a period of 6 months and, at the end of  
7 December 31, 2004, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act  
8 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.