
By: **Delegates McIntosh, Benson, Bobo, V. Clagett, Conroy, Doory, Frush,
Goldwater, Griffith, Howard, Hubbard, Jones, Mandel, Montgomery,
Nathan-Pulliam, Parker, Patterson, Pendergrass, Stern, and V. Turner**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2004

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on the Prevention and Elimination of Cervical Cancer**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force on the Prevention and Elimination of
4 Cervical Cancer; providing for the composition, chairman, vice chairman, and
5 staff of the Task Force; authorizing the chairman of the Task Force to establish
6 certain committees and make certain appointments to certain committees;
7 providing that members of the Task Force may not receive compensation, but
8 may be reimbursed for certain expenses; providing for the duties of the Task
9 Force; requiring the Task Force to submit an annual report to the Governor and
10 to the General Assembly on or before certain dates; providing for the
11 termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force on the
12 Prevention and Elimination of Cervical Cancer.

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

15 (a) There is a Task Force on the Prevention and Elimination of Cervical
16 Cancer.

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

18 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
19 the Senate;

20 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
21 the House;

22 (3) two officers of the Women Legislators of Maryland, one to be
23 appointed by the President of the Senate and one to be appointed by the Speaker of
24 the House;

25 (4) the Deputy Secretary for Public Health Services of the Department of
26 Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Deputy Secretary's designee;

1 (5) the Deputy Secretary for Health Care Financing of the Department of
2 Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Deputy Secretary's designee;

3 (6) the Director of the Center for Cancer Surveillance and Control in the
4 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene;

5 (7) the Chairperson of the State Council on Cancer Control; and

6 (8) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

7 (i) one physician who is a member of the American College of
8 Obstetrics and Gynecology;

9 (ii) one physician who is a member of the American Academy of
10 Family Physicians;

11 (iii) one physician who is an oncologist and represents the American
12 Cancer Society;

13 (iv) one registered nurse;

14 (v) one representative of a women's health organization;

15 (vi) one representative of the American Academy of Pediatrics;

16 (vii) one representative of the health insurance industry;

17 (viii) one teacher;

18 (ix) one representative of a local newspaper, television, or radio
19 station; and

20 (x) two members of the public, one of whom shall be a cervical
21 cancer survivor.

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

23 (d) The Task Force shall elect a vice chairman from among its members.

24 (e) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall provide staff for the
25 Task Force.

26 (f) The Chairman of the Task Force may:

27 (1) establish committees for the purpose of completing the duties of the
28 Task Force; and

29 (2) appoint individuals who are not members of the Task Force to serve
30 on each committee.

1 (g) A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation for serving on
2 the Task Force, but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
3 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

4 (h) The Task Force shall:

5 (1) be briefed by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene on the
6 prevalence and burden of cervical cancer in the State;

7 (2) in collaboration with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
8 and the State Council on Cancer Control, promote public awareness on the causes and
9 nature of cervical cancer, personal risk factors, the value of prevention, early
10 detection, options for testing, treatment costs, new technology, medical care
11 reimbursement, and physician education;

12 (3) identify and examine the limitations of existing programs, services,
13 laws, and regulations with respect to:

14 (i) cervical cancer awareness; and

15 (ii) the availability of health insurance coverage and public services
16 for the diagnosis and treatment of cervical cancer;

17 (4) develop a statewide comprehensive Cervical Cancer Prevention Plan
18 and strategies for plan implementation and public promotion of the plan;

19 (5) facilitate coordination and communication among State and local
20 agencies and organizations regarding achieving the goals of the Cervical Cancer
21 Prevention Plan developed by the Task Force;

22 (6) receive public testimony from individuals, local health departments,
23 community-based organizations, and other public and private organizations to gather
24 input on these individuals' and organizations':

25 (i) contributions to cervical cancer prevention, diagnosis, and
26 treatment; and

27 (ii) ideas for improving cervical cancer prevention, diagnosis, and
28 treatment in the State.

29 (i) The Task Force shall present an annual report on its findings and
30 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
31 Government Article, the General Assembly, on or before October 1 of each year
32 beginning October 1, 2004.

33 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That to the extent practicable,
34 appointments to the Task Force shall be made to ensure regional, economic, ethnic,
35 and gender diversity on the Task Force.

1 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 July 1, 2004. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of June
3 30, 2009, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
4 abrogated and of no further force and effect.