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By: **Delegate Rosenberg**  
Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2004  
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Medicaid Eligibility Process for Long-Term Care**

3 FOR the purpose of creating the Task Force to Study the Medicaid Eligibility Process  
4 for Long-Term Care; providing for the membership, cochairmen, and staff of the  
5 Task Force; providing that a member of the Task Force may not receive  
6 compensation but is entitled to certain reimbursement; providing for the duties  
7 of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to make certain reports to certain  
8 committees of the General Assembly by certain dates; providing for the  
9 termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study the  
10 Medicaid Eligibility Process for Long-Term Care.

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

13 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Medicaid Eligibility Process for  
14 Long-Term Care.

15 (b) The Task Force consists of the following 16 members:

16 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President  
17 of the Senate;

18 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
19 the House;

20 (3) the Secretary of Human Resources, or the Secretary's designee;

21 (4) the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's  
22 designee; and

23 (5) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

24 (i) one representative from each local department of social services  
25 in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Montgomery County, and Prince George's  
26 County;

- 1 (ii) two representatives from the Health Facilities Association of  
2 Maryland;
- 3 (iii) two representatives from Mid-Atlantic LifeSpan; and
- 4 (iv) two family members of a resident of a Maryland nursing home.

5 (c) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall jointly  
6 appoint a Senator and a Delegate to serve as cochairmen of the Task Force.

7 (d) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff support for the  
8 Task Force.

9 (e) A member of the Task Force:

10 (1) may not receive compensation; but

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

13 (f) The Task Force shall:

14 (1) review the Medicaid long-term care eligibility process in other states  
15 to identify a model for improving the process in this State;

16 (2) study the desirability and feasibility of:

17 (i) transferring responsibility for the Medicaid long-term care  
18 eligibility process from the Department of Human Resources to the Department of  
19 Health and Mental Hygiene;

20 (ii) transferring responsibility for the Medicaid long-term care  
21 eligibility process from the local departments of social services to the four regional  
22 offices of the Department of Human Resources; and

23 (iii) authorizing the State to delegate the Medicaid long-term care  
24 eligibility process to a private entity; and

25 (3) identify any other methods to improve the State Medicaid long-term  
26 care eligibility process.

27 (g) (1) The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the  
28 Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate Budget  
29 and Taxation Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the House Appropriations  
30 Committee, and the House Health and Government Operations Committee, in an  
31 interim report on or before November 1, 2004, and in a final report on or before  
32 December 31, 2005.

33 (2) The interim report required under paragraph (1) of this subsection,  
34 shall identify and describe three models for improving the Medicaid long-term care  
35 eligibility process.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2 July 1, 2004. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June  
3 30, 2006, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be  
4 abrogated and of no further force and effect.