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CHAPTER _____

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~~ 22 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;

- 1 (3) the Secretary of Human Resources, or the Secretary's designee;
- 2 (4) the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's
3 designee; and
- 4 (5) the following members, appointed by the Governor:
- 5 (i) one representative from each local department of social services
6 in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Montgomery County, and Prince George's
7 County;
- 8 (ii) two representatives from the Health Facilities Association of
9 Maryland;
- 10 (iii) two representatives from Mid-Atlantic LifeSpan; ~~and~~
- 11 (iv) two family members of a resident of a Maryland nursing home;
- 12 (v) two representatives from the Maryland Association of Adult
13 Day Care Services;
- 14 (vi) two representatives from the Alzheimer's Association; and
- 15 (vii) two representatives from the Legal Aid Bureau of Maryland's
16 Assisted Living Program.
- 17 (c) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall jointly
18 appoint a Senator and a Delegate to serve as cochairmen of the Task Force.
- 19 (d) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff support for the
20 Task Force.
- 21 (e) A member of the Task Force:
- 22 (1) may not receive compensation; but
- 23 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
24 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- 25 (f) The Task Force shall:
- 26 (1) review the Medicaid long-term care eligibility process in other states
27 to identify a model for improving the process in this State;
- 28 (2) study the desirability and feasibility of:
- 29 (i) transferring responsibility for the Medicaid long-term care
30 eligibility process from the Department of Human Resources to the Department of
31 Health and Mental Hygiene;

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

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

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

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

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

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 July 1, 2004. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June
19 30, 2006, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
20 abrogated and of no further force and effect.