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By: **Delegates Carter, Doory, Hammen, Haynes, Kirk, Marriott, McHale, Murray, Nathan-Pulliam, Niemann, Oaks, Parker, Rosenberg, and ~~V. Turner~~ V. Turner, Hurson, Benson, Boteler, Boutin, Bromwell, Costa, Donoghue, Elliott, Goldwater, Hubbard, Kach, Mandel, McDonough, Morhaim, Pendergrass, Rudolph, Smigiel, and Weldon**

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Re-referred to: Health and Government Operations, March 8, 2004

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 26, 2004

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Mental Hygiene Administration - Study of the Maryland**  
3 **Public Mental Health System**

4 FOR the purpose of ~~creating a Task Force to Study the Maryland Public Mental~~  
5 ~~Health System; providing for the composition, staff, and compensation of the~~  
6 ~~Task Force; requiring the Task Force Maryland Advisory Council on Mental~~  
7 ~~Hygiene to study certain issues regarding the public mental health system;~~  
8 ~~requiring the Task Force Advisory Council to submit a certain report to the~~  
9 ~~Governor and certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain~~  
10 ~~date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task~~  
11 ~~Force to Study a study of the Maryland Public Mental Health System.~~

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

14 (a) The Maryland Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene established under §  
15 10-301 of the Health - General Article shall study the Maryland Public Mental  
16 Health System.

17 (a) ~~There is a Task Force to Study the Maryland Public Mental Health~~  
18 ~~System.~~

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

- 1           (1)     one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
2 ~~the Senate;~~
- 3           (2)     one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
4 ~~the House;~~
- 5           (3)     the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's  
6 ~~designee;~~
- 7           (4)     the Director of the Mental Hygiene Administration, or the Director's  
8 ~~designee;~~
- 9           (5)     the Director of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration, or the  
10 ~~Director's designee;~~
- 11          (6)     the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, or the  
12 ~~Secretary's designee;~~
- 13          (7)     the Secretary of Juvenile Services, or the Secretary's designee; and
- 14          (8)     the following members appointed by the Governor:
- 15           (i)     one representative of the Baltimore City Chapter of the Alliance  
16 ~~for the Mentally III;~~
- 17           (ii)    one representative of the Maryland Psychological Association;
- 18           (iii)   one representative of the Maryland Psychiatric Association;
- 19           (iv)    one representative of the Maryland judiciary;
- 20           (v)     two doctors with experience working in the public mental  
21 ~~health system;~~
- 22           (vi)    two administrators from a Maryland mental health facility;
- 23           (vii)   one representative of the Maryland Classified Employees  
24 ~~Association; and~~
- 25           (viii)  one representative of the American Federation of State, City,  
26 ~~and Municipal Employees.~~
- 27   (e)     ~~The Task Force shall elect a chairman from among its members.~~
- 28   (d)     ~~The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall provide staff for the~~  
29 ~~Task Force.~~
- 30   (e)     A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation for serving on  
31 ~~the Task Force, but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard~~  
32 ~~State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.~~

1       ~~(a)~~       **(b)**       The ~~Task Force~~ Maryland Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene shall:

2                   (1)       conduct an overall needs assessment of the services offered by and  
3 the structure of the public mental health system;

4                   (2)       break down the needs assessment by demographic group;

5                   (3)       identify currently developed system resources and possible future  
6 system resources;

7                   (4)       determine the ability of various groups in the system to access  
8 services offered through community-based centers;

9                   (5)       study whether uninsured individuals in need of mental health  
10 services are obtaining those services;

11                   (6)       assess whether co-occurring disorders are being properly diagnosed  
12 and the appropriate services are being coordinated throughout the system; and

13                   (7)       evaluate whether acute care and long-term care needs are being met  
14 by the public mental health system.

15       SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before September  
16 30, 2005, the ~~Task Force~~ Maryland Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene shall issue a  
17 report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246  
18 of the State Government Article, the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental  
19 Affairs Committee and the House ~~Ways and Means~~ Health and Government  
20 Operations Committee.

21       SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
22 October 1, 2004. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of  
23 September 30, 2005, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this  
24 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.