
By: **Senator Lawlah**
Introduced and read first time: March 5, 2004
Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on the Status of Women and Information Technology**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force on the Status of Women and
4 Information Technology; providing for the membership, purposes, and staffing of
5 the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report to certain persons by a certain
6 date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task
7 Force on the Status of Women and Information Technology.

8 BY adding to
9 Article - State Government
10 Section 9-801 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 8. Task Force on the Status
11 of Women and Information Technology"
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article - State Government**

17 **SUBTITLE 8. TASK FORCE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND INFORMATION**
18 **TECHNOLOGY.**

19 9-801.

20 (A) THERE IS A TASK FORCE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND INFORMATION
21 TECHNOLOGY.

22 (B) THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

23 (1) ONE MEMBER FROM THE SENATE OF MARYLAND, APPOINTED BY
24 THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

25 (2) ONE MEMBER FROM THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY THE
26 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

1 (3) TWO MEMBERS OF THE WOMEN LEGISLATORS OF MARYLAND, ONE
2 TO BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND ONE TO BE APPOINTED
3 BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

4 (4) THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC
5 DEVELOPMENT, OR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

6 (5) THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF LABOR, LICENSING, AND REGULATION,
7 OR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

8 (6) THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION
9 COMMISSION, OR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

10 (7) THE ASSISTANT STATE SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE DIVISION OF
11 CAREER TECHNOLOGY AND ADULT LEARNING, STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,
12 OR THE ASSISTANT STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE;

13 (8) THE DIRECTOR FOR THE CENTER FOR WOMEN AND INFORMATION
14 TECHNOLOGY, OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;

15 (9) ONE MEMBER FROM THE MARYLAND COMMISSION FOR WOMEN,
16 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR; AND

17 (10) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:

18 (I) ONE BUSINESS ENTREPRENEUR WHO IS THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE
19 OFFICER OF AN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMPANY;

20 (II) TWO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS,
21 AT LEAST ONE OF WHOM IS A WOMAN;

22 (III) ONE HUMAN RESOURCES REPRESENTATIVE FROM A MAJOR
23 CORPORATION WHO HIRES INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WORKERS;

24 (IV) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY
25 THAT REPRESENTS TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION;

26 (V) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A COMMUNITY COLLEGE
27 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM;

28 (VI) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A 4-YEAR EDUCATIONAL
29 INSTITUTION INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM;

30 (VII) ONE SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHER; AND

31 (VIII) TWO COLLEGE STUDENTS MAJORING IN INFORMATION
32 TECHNOLOGY, PREFERABLY WOMEN.

33 (C) EACH MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL BE APPOINTED ON OR BEFORE
34 AUGUST 1, 2004.

1 (D) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, APPOINTMENTS TO THE TASK FORCE
2 SHALL BE MADE TO ENSURE REGIONAL, ECONOMIC, ETHNIC, AND GENDER
3 DIVERSITY ON THE TASK FORCE.

4 (E) THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TASK FORCE.

5 (F) THE TASK FORCE SHALL ELECT A VICE CHAIRMAN FROM AMONG ITS
6 MEMBERS.

7 (G) THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TASK FORCE MAY:

8 (1) ESTABLISH COMMITTEES FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMPLETING THE
9 DUTIES OF THE TASK FORCE; AND

10 (2) APPOINT INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE
11 TO SERVE ON EACH COMMITTEE.

12 (H) THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SHALL
13 PROVIDE STAFF SUPPORT TO THE TASK FORCE.

14 (I) A MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION FOR
15 SERVING ON THE TASK FORCE, BUT IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR
16 EXPENSES UNDER THE STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN
17 THE STATE BUDGET.

18 (J) THE TASK FORCE SHALL:

19 (1) STUDY THE ISSUES RELATING TO THE DECLINING INVOLVEMENT OF
20 GIRLS AND WOMEN IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY;

21 (2) STUDY THE IMPACT THIS DECLINE HAS ON THE OVERALL
22 TECHNOLOGY LITERACY OF MARYLAND'S WORKFORCE;

23 (3) STUDY THE IMPACT OF THIS DECLINE ON THE FUTURE OF THE
24 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE IN MARYLAND;

25 (4) CREATE AWARENESS THROUGHOUT THE STATE ON THE ISSUE OF
26 WOMEN AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE FINDINGS OF THIS TASK FORCE;

27 (5) IDENTIFY AND EXAMINE EXISTING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, LAWS,
28 AND REGULATIONS WITH RESPECT TO IDENTIFYING PRACTICES THAT BEST
29 ADDRESS THE ISSUE IN EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT;

30 (6) INVESTIGATE STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES THAT
31 WILL BETTER MEET THE STATE'S WORKFORCE DEMANDS IN ALL CAREER AREAS
32 WHERE TECHNOLOGY IS USED;

33 (7) DEVELOP A STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE WOMEN AND
34 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN AND STRATEGIES FOR PLAN IMPLEMENTATION
35 AND PUBLIC PROMOTION OF THE PLAN; AND

1 (8) FACILITATE COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION AMONG STATE
2 AND LOCAL AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS REGARDING ACHIEVING THE GOALS OF
3 THE PLAN.

4 (K) THE TASK FORCE SHALL PRESENT AN ANNUAL REPORT ON ITS FINDINGS
5 AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246
6 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ON OR BEFORE
7 OCTOBER 1 OF EACH YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2004.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 July 1, 2004. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of June
10 30, 2009, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
11 abrogated and of no further force and effect.