

BY: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 735

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike in their entirety lines 2 and 3 and substitute “Task Force to Study Visual Smoke and Evacuation Alarms for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing”; strike beginning with “altering” in line 4 down through “buildings” in line 19 and substitute “establishing a Task Force to Study Visual Smoke and Evacuation Alarms for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; providing for the membership of the Task Force; providing for the designation of a chair of the Task Force; providing for the staff of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving compensation; authorizing a member of the Task Force to receive reimbursement for certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study certain issues; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the establishment of a Task Force to Study Visual Smoke and Evacuation Alarms for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing”; and strike in their entirety lines 20 through 31, inclusive.

On page 2, strike in their entirety lines 1 through 5, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 7, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”; after line 7, insert:

“(a) There is a Task Force to Study Visual Smoke and Evacuation Alarms for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

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

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

(Over)

- (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- (3) the Secretary of the Department of Disabilities, or the Secretary's designee;
- (4) one member of the Governor's Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, appointed by the Governor;
- (5) one member of the Maryland Disabilities Law Center;
- (6) one member from Making Choices for Independent Living;
- (7) one member from the Maryland Association of the Deaf;
- (8) one member from the Maryland Coalition for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing;
- (9) one member from the Governor's Office of Homeland Security;
- (10) the State Fire Marshal, or the Fire Marshal's designee;
- (11) one member from the Maryland Legislative Action Committee for the Community Associations Institute;
- (12) one member from the National Association of the Deaf;
- (13) one member from the Maryland Chapter of the AARP;
- (14) one member each from the Columbia and Frederick campuses of the Maryland School for the Deaf;
- (15) one member from a Maryland association representing landlords of rental apartments, appointed by the Governor;
- (16) one member from the Maryland Multi-Housing Association;

- (17) one member from the Maryland Realtors Association; and
  - (18) two members of the public who are deaf, appointed by the Governor.
  
- (c) The Secretary of the Department of Disabilities shall serve as the chair of the Task Force.
  
- (d) The Department of Disabilities shall provide staff for the Task Force.
  
- (e) A member of the Task Force:
  - (1) may not receive compensation; but
  
  - (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
  
- (f) The Task Force shall study and make recommendations regarding:
  - (1) emergency evacuation plans in the State for people who are deaf and hard of hearing and who are living in apartments and condominiums;
  
  - (2) the availability of emerging technology and the costs of the technology related to the security and safety of people who are deaf and hard of hearing;
  
  - (3) the costs of installation in the common areas and individual units within apartment buildings and condominiums of alarm systems specifically designed for people who are deaf and hard of hearing;
  
  - (4) a comparison of other states' emergency evacuation plans and the costs of those plans for emergency evacuation of people who are deaf and hard of hearing and are living in apartments or condominiums;
  
  - (5) an examination of all public and private funding sources available for the

purpose of providing emergency evacuation plans, devices, and equipment to people who are deaf and hard of hearing and living in apartments or condominiums.

(g) The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on or before September 30, 2006.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On pages 2 through 6, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 8 on page 2 through line 31 on page 6, inclusive, and substitute:

“SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2005. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of September 30, 2006, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.