

By: **Senators Kelley, Britt, Colburn, Currie, Exum, Grosfeld, Hollinger, Hooper, Hughes, Jimeno, Jones, Klausmeier, Lawlah, Middleton, Pinsky, Stone, and Teitelbaum**

Introduced and read first time: January 17, 2005

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Maryland Teachers' Pension System and the**
3 **Teachers' Retirement System**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study the Maryland Teachers'
5 Pension System and the Teachers' Retirement System; requiring the Task Force
6 to study the accessibility of postretirement benefits for members of the two
7 systems; requiring the Task Force to compare the retirement benefit levels of
8 members of the two systems with the retirement benefit levels of teachers in
9 certain other states; requiring the Task Force to make recommendations on any
10 changes that are deemed to be necessary or desirable to the systems; providing
11 for the membership of the Task Force; prohibiting a member from receiving
12 certain compensation; authorizing a member to receive certain reimbursement;
13 requiring the Task Force to issue a report by a certain date; providing for the
14 staffing of the Task Force; providing for the termination of this Act; and
15 generally relating to the Task Force to Study the Maryland Teachers' Pension
16 System and the Teachers' Retirement System.

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
18 MARYLAND, That:

19 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Maryland Teachers' Pension System
20 and the Teachers' Retirement System.

21 (b) The Task Force shall:

22 (1) study the accessibility of all aspects of postretirement benefits for
23 members of the Teachers' Retirement System and Teachers' Pension System, with
24 specific attention given to those members who have been employed by more than one
25 local school system in the State throughout their careers; and

26 (2) compare the retirement benefit levels of members of the Teachers'
27 Retirement System and the Teachers' Pension System with the retirement benefit
28 levels of teachers in Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia.

- 1 (c) The Task Force shall be composed of 26 members as follows:
- 2 (1) three members of the Senate of Maryland appointed by the President
3 of the Senate;
- 4 (2) three members of the House of Delegates of Maryland appointed by
5 the Speaker of the House;
- 6 (3) eight members appointed by the Governor, including:
- 7 (i) a chairman;
- 8 (ii) two representatives of local boards of education;
- 9 (iii) two superintendents or chief administrative officers of local
10 school systems;
- 11 (iv) an actively employed principal of a public school nominated by
12 the State Superintendent of Schools; and
- 13 (v) two actively employed public school teachers nominated by the
14 State Superintendent of Schools;
- 15 (4) two members of the Board of Trustees for the Maryland State
16 Retirement and Pension System, designated by the chairman of the Board;
- 17 (5) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the Superintendent's
18 designee;
- 19 (6) the Secretary of Budget and Management, or the Secretary's
20 designee;
- 21 (7) two representatives of the Maryland Association of Counties
22 appointed by the President of the Association;
- 23 (8) two members of the Maryland State Teachers' Association designated
24 by the Association;
- 25 (9) a member of the Baltimore Teachers' Union designated by the Union;
- 26 (10) a member of the Maryland State Board of Education designated by
27 the President of the Board; and
- 28 (11) two retired teachers designated by the Maryland Retired Teachers
29 Association.
- 30 (d) A member of the Task Force:
- 31 (1) may not receive compensation; but

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

3 (e) The Department of Budget and Management and the State Retirement
4 Agency shall provide staff for the Task Force.

5 (f) The Task Force shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations
6 regarding any changes determined to be necessary or desirable to the system to the
7 Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the
8 General Assembly on or before January 10, 2006.

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
10 July 1, 2005. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and at the end of June 30,
11 2006, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
12 abrogated and of no further force and effect.