

BY: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 741
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike in their entirety lines 2 through 19, inclusive, and substitute:

“Education - Task Force to Study Raising the Compulsory Public School Attendance Age to 18

FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study Raising the Compulsory Public School Attendance Age to 18; providing for the membership and staffing of the Task Force; specifying the purposes and goals of the Task Force; providing for the staffing of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to evaluate and make recommendations regarding certain issues by a certain date and to submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to a Task Force to Study Raising the Compulsory Public School Attendance Age to 18.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 1 through 4, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 22 on page 1 through line 32 on page 4, inclusive, and substitute:

“(a) There is a Task Force to Study Raising the Compulsory Public School Attendance Age to 18.

(b) The Task Force shall consist of the following members:

(1) Three members of the Senate of Maryland, to include at least one member of the minority party, selected by the President of the Senate;

(2) Three members of the House of Delegates of Maryland, to include at least one member of the minority party, selected by the Speaker of the House;

(Over)

(3) The State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent's designee;

(4) The Secretary of Juvenile Justice, or the Secretary's designee;

(5) The following members selected by the Governor:

(i) Two county superintendents of schools;

(ii) Two members of county boards of education;

(iii) A representative of a nonprofit organization;

(iv) A president of one of the institutions of higher education in the State;

(v) A community education expert;

(vi) Two parent representatives;

(vii) A student representative; and

(viii) One representative each from Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Charles County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Washington County, and Wicomico County.

(c) The purposes and goals of the Task Force shall be to:

(1) Study the impact of extending the compulsory public school attendance age to 18; and

(2) Provide the General Assembly with an impact statement and recommendations, if any, for guidelines and resources needed to implement the raising of the compulsory public school attendance age to 18.

(d) The Task Force shall commence its work in November 2006.

(e) As part of its review, the Task Force shall:

(1) Gather and review data on relevant best practices related to extended learning opportunities for teens between the ages of 15 and 18, including recommendations put forth under the federal No Child Left Behind legislation (P.L. 107-110);

(2) Examine the adequacy of facilities, staffing, programming, instructional time, and resources to accommodate raising the compulsory public school attendance age to 18;

(3) Project the impact on student attendance and achievement outcomes, and assess the fiscal and social benefits to the students and to the State, of raising the compulsory public school attendance age to 18;

(4) Develop an action plan to implement, provide professional development opportunities, and foster partnerships among governmental agencies, county boards of education, and the business community to support the successful implementation of an initiative to raise the compulsory public school attendance age to 18 throughout the State;

(5) Examine the implications for raising the compulsory public school attendance age to 18 on standards-based outcomes, students with disabilities, and students with limited English proficiency; and

(6) Provide any other guidance and make any other recommendations the Task Force deems appropriate.

(f) 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.

(g) The Maryland State Department of Education and the Department of Legislative Services jointly shall provide staff to the Task Force.

(Over)

(h) The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly, on or before December 1, 2007.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2006. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 6 months and, at the end of December 31, 2007, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.