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By: **The Speaker (By Request - Administration) and Delegates Aumann, Bartlett, Benson, Boschert, Boteler, Cluster, Cryor, Donoghue, Eckardt, Edwards, Elliott, Frank, Haddaway, Hogan, Impallaria, Jennings, Kelly, Kohl, Krebs, Mayer, McComas, McDonough, McKee, Miller, Moe, Myers, O'Donnell, Parrott, Shank, Shewell, Smigiel, Sossi, Stocksdale, Stull, Weir, and Weldon**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2006  
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Gubernatorial Succession in Maryland**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study Gubernatorial Succession in  
4 Maryland; providing for the membership and staffing of the Task Force;  
5 requiring the Task Force to study certain issues related to gubernatorial  
6 succession and report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a  
7 certain date; requiring the Task Force to make recommendations regarding  
8 gubernatorial succession; prohibiting members of the Task Force from receiving  
9 certain compensation but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses;  
10 providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to a Task Force  
11 to Study Gubernatorial Succession in Maryland.

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

14 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Gubernatorial Succession in Maryland.

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

16 (1) two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;

17 (2) one member of the Senate selected by the Senate Minority Leader;

18 (3) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
19 the House of Delegates;

20 (4) one member of the House of Delegates selected by the House Minority  
21 Leader;

22 (5) one member representing the Comptroller;

23 (6) one member representing the Attorney General; and

1 (7) three members appointed by the Governor.

2 (c) The Task Force may request the assistance and advice of:

3 (1) the Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee; and

4 (2) the Attorney General.

5 (d) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

6 (e) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff for the Task  
7 Force.

8 (f) A member of the Task Force:

9 (1) shall serve without compensation; but

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

12 (g) The Task Force shall:

13 (1) review and study the desirability and implications of expanding the  
14 gubernatorial line of succession in Maryland;

15 (2) study recent federal proposals regarding the subject of United States  
16 Presidential succession; and

17 (3) review the current practices in other states and recent proposals  
18 considered or undertaken by other states regarding gubernatorial succession  
19 processes and policies.

20 (h) The Task Force shall make recommendations regarding:

21 (1) constitutional officers and State agency personnel that should be  
22 identified as potential successors as acting Governor; and

23 (2) legislation necessary to accomplish the goals and recommendations of  
24 the Task Force.

25 (i) The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the  
26 Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General  
27 Assembly on or before December 31, 2006.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
29 July 1, 2006. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30,  
30 2007, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be  
31 abrogated and of no further force and effect.