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By: **Delegates Kelley, Healey, Parker, and V. Turner**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2006

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2                                   **Transportation - Task Force to Study General Aviation Issues in Maryland -**  
3                                   **Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study General Aviation Issues in  
5 Maryland; providing for the membership of the Task Force; requiring the  
6 Governor to appoint the Chair of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to  
7 examine certain environmental, safety, and security issues regarding general  
8 aviation in Maryland and to make certain recommendations; providing for  
9 reimbursement for the expenses of a member of the Task Force; providing for  
10 the staff of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report to the Governor  
11 and the General Assembly by a certain date; providing for the termination of  
12 this Act; and generally relating to the establishment of the Task Force to Study  
13 General Aviation Issues in Maryland.

14       SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
15 MARYLAND, That:

16       (a)       There is a Task Force to Study General Aviation Issues in Maryland.

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

18               (1)       a member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the  
19 House;

20               (2)       a member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
21 the Senate;

22               (3)       a representative of the Maryland Aviation Administration, appointed  
23 by the Secretary of Transportation; and

24               (4)       the following members, appointed by the Governor:

25                       (i)       a representative of a county planning board;

26                       (ii)       one member of the general public who lives in close proximity to  
27 a general aviation airport;

1 (iii) one member of the general public who is a general aviation  
2 pilot; and

3 (iv) an operator or a manager of a general aviation airport in the  
4 State.

5 (c) The Governor shall appoint the Chair of the Task Force.

6 (d) The Task Force shall:

7 (1) examine environmental problems experienced by communities that  
8 are in close proximity to general aviation airports, including any problems with low  
9 flying aircraft;

10 (2) examine safety concerns of communities that are in close proximity to  
11 general aviation airports;

12 (3) examine safety and land use compatibility issues relating to general  
13 aviation airports;

14 (4) examine security issues regarding general aviation airports,  
15 including:

16 (i) determining whether flight schools and flight school students  
17 are adequately monitored;

18 (ii) determining whether information regarding pilots who, and  
19 aircraft that, take off from and land in general aviation airports is adequately  
20 recorded; and

21 (iii) reviewing the authority of the federal, State, and local  
22 governments with respect to security and law enforcement at general aviation  
23 airports; and

24 (5) make recommendations regarding:

25 (i) alleviation of any environmental problems experienced by or  
26 safety concerns of communities that are in close proximity to general aviation  
27 airports;

28 (ii) the updating of standards and guidelines for land use in areas  
29 surrounding general aviation airports in the State; and

30 (iii) steps that State and local authorities should take to facilitate  
31 security and law enforcement for general aviation airports.

32 (e) A member of the Task Force:

33 (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       (f)       The Maryland Aviation Administration shall provide staff support for the  
4 Task Force.

5       (g)       The Task Force shall issue a final report of its findings and  
6 recommendations to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government  
7 Article, to the General Assembly on or before November 30, 2007.

8       SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
9 June 1, 2006. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 6 months and, at the  
10 end of November 30, 2007, with no further action required by the General Assembly,  
11 this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.