

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Senator Britt**
 Requested: July 20, 2005
 Introduced and read first time: January 11, 2006
 Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
 Senate action: Adopted
 Read second time: February 1, 2006

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Convene a Summit on Civic Literacy in Maryland**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Convene a Summit on Civic
 4 Literacy in Maryland; providing for the composition, powers, and duties of the
 5 Task Force; requiring the State Department of Education and the Maryland
 6 Higher Education Commission to provide staffing for the Task Force;
 7 prohibiting members of the Task Force from receiving compensation but
 8 entitling members to reimbursement for certain expenses; requiring the Task
 9 Force to convene a Summit on Civic Literacy for certain purposes; requiring the
 10 Task Force to report certain findings and recommendations to the Governor, the
 11 State Department of Education, and the General Assembly on or before a certain
 12 date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task
 13 Force to Convene a Summit on Civic Literacy in Maryland.

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

16 (a) There is a Task Force to Convene a Summit on Civic Literacy in Maryland.

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

18 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President
 19 of the Senate;

20 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
 21 the House;

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

3 (4) the Secretary for Higher Education, or the Secretary's designee; ~~and~~

4 (5) two representatives of the Center for Information and Research on
5 Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE);

6 (6) two representatives from the Maryland Association of Student
7 Councils; and

8 (7) one representative from the Maryland Judicial Conference.

9 (c) The Task Force shall elect the chair of the Task Force from among its
10 members.

11 (d) The State Department of Education and the Maryland Higher Education
12 Commission shall provide staff for the Task Force.

13 (e) A member of the Task Force:

14 (1) may not receive compensation; but

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

17 (f) The Task Force shall:

18 (1) convene a Summit for Civic Literacy to:

19 (i) determine a strategy for enhancing the long-term civic
20 engagement and literacy within the State; and

21 (ii) recommend a plan to improve civic engagement and literacy.

22 (2) invite a diverse range of student, teacher, and administrator
23 representatives from elementary, secondary, and higher education, media, civic
24 organizations, and elected officials from across the State of Maryland to participate in
25 the discussions concerning civic engagement and literacy at the summit; and

26 (3) invite the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning
27 and Engagement based in the University of Maryland's School of Public Policy to
28 facilitate the Summit on Civic Literacy.

29 (g) The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations for future
30 actions to the Governor, State Department of Education, and in accordance with §
31 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly, on or before December
32 31, 2006.

33 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
34 July 1, 2006. It shall remain effective for a period of 6 months and, at the end of

1 December 31, 2006, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act
2 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.