
By: **The President (By Request - Administration) and Senators Brinkley,
Colburn, Hooper, Jacobs, Kittleman, Munson, Schrader, and Stoltzfus**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2006

Rules suspended

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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

24 (7) three members appointed by the Governor.

- (c) The Task Force may request the assistance and advice of:
- (1) the Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee; and
 - (2) the Attorney General.
- (d) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.
- (e) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff for the Task Force.
- (f) A member of the Task Force:
- (1) shall serve without compensation; but
 - (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- (g) The Task Force shall:
- (1) review and study the desirability and implications of expanding the gubernatorial line of succession in Maryland;
 - (2) study recent federal proposals regarding the subject of United States Presidential succession; and
 - (3) review the current practices in other states and recent proposals considered or undertaken by other states regarding gubernatorial succession processes and policies.
- (h) The Task Force shall make recommendations regarding:
- (1) constitutional officers and State agency personnel that should be identified as potential successors as acting Governor; and
 - (2) legislation necessary to accomplish the goals and recommendations of the Task Force.
- (i) The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2006.

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, at the end of June 30, 2007, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.