
By: **Senator Britt**

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Assigned to: Rules

Re-referred to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs, March 3, 2006

Committee Report: Favorable

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CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Promote Nonviolent and Peaceful Ways to Resolve Conflict**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Promote Nonviolent and Peaceful
 4 Ways to Resolve Conflict; establishing the membership of the Task Force;
 5 providing staff support for the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task
 6 Force from receiving certain compensation; authorizing a member of the Task
 7 Force to be reimbursed for certain expenses; providing for the duties of the Task
 8 Force; requiring the Task Force to issue its findings and recommendations by a
 9 certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to
 10 ways to promote nonviolent and peaceful ways to resolve conflict.

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

13 (a) There is a Task Force to Promote Nonviolent and Peaceful Ways to Resolve
 14 Conflict.

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) three members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
 18 of the House; and

19 (3) ten members, to be appointed by the Governor to include:

20 (i) one person representing the elementary and secondary
 21 educational community;

- 1 (ii) one person with experience working in the juvenile justice
2 system;
- 3 (iii) one person with experience working in the adult criminal
4 justice system;
- 5 (iv) one person with experience in mediation or other alternative
6 dispute resolution programs;
- 7 (v) one person with experience with community oriented conflict
8 resolution programs, such as community conferencing or community mediation; and
- 9 (vi) five members of the public at large.

10 (c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

11 (d) The Governor's office shall provide staff support to the Task Force.

12 (e) A member of the Task Force:

13 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

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

16 (f) The Task Force shall:

17 (1) identify research-tested best practices for promoting understanding
18 and the peaceful resolution of conflicts;

19 (2) examine obstacles to nonviolent conflict resolution;

20 (3) identify public, private, faith-based, and nonprofit organizations
21 working to promote understanding and nonviolent conflict resolution;

22 (4) identify specific actions that the State may take:

23 (i) to promote and support proven peaceful conflict resolution
24 approaches at the local and state level of the public sector and in the private sector;
25 and

26 (ii) to promote increased tolerance and understanding between
27 diverse communities and constituencies;

28 (5) identify strategies that the State and specific State agencies may use
29 to encourage peaceful behavior, including modifying or expanding current initiatives
30 and public educational efforts;

31 (6) examine ways to apply models of peaceful conflict resolution to the
32 juvenile and criminal justice systems; and

1 (7) examine ways to promote public discussion and exploration of
2 peaceful resolution of conflict issues at the personal, neighborhood, and community
3 levels.

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

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 October 1, 2006. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of
9 September 30, 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
10 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.