
By: **Senator Garagiola**

Constitutional Requirements Complied with for Introduction in the last 35 Days of Session

Introduced and read first time: March 20, 2006

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Environmental Health Conditions in Maryland's Classrooms**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force on Environmental Health Conditions in
 4 Maryland's Classrooms; establishing the membership and staffing of the Task
 5 Force; providing for the designation of the chair of the Task Force; authorizing
 6 the Task Force to establish certain subcommittees; requiring the Task Force to
 7 evaluate and make recommendations regarding certain issues; requiring the
 8 Task Force to submit a certain report to the Governor and General Assembly by
 9 a certain date; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain
 10 compensation, but authorizing a member of the Task Force to receive certain
 11 reimbursements; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally
 12 relating to the Task Force on Environmental Health Conditions in Maryland's
 13 Classrooms.

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

16 (a) There is a Task Force on Environmental Health Conditions in Maryland's
 17 Classrooms.

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

19 (1) Two members of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker of
 20 the House;

21 (2) Two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate;

22 (3) The Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary's designee;

23 (4) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's
 24 designee;

25 (5) The State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent's
 26 designee; and

1 (6) The following members jointly appointed by the President of the
2 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates:

3 (i) One representative from the Advocates for Children and Youth;

4 (ii) One representative from the Maryland Committee for Children,
5 Inc.;

6 (iii) One representative from the University of Maryland Medical
7 Center's Division of Pediatric Pulmonology and Allergy;

8 (iv) One representative from the Johns Hopkins School of Public
9 Health;

10 (v) One representative from the American Academy of Pediatrics,
11 Maryland Chapter; and

12 (vi) One representative from the Maryland Parent-Teacher
13 Association.

14 (c) The members of the Task Force shall elect a chair from among the Task
15 Force's members.

16 (d) The Task Force may establish subcommittees as it determines necessary to
17 fulfill its duties.

18 (e) The Department of the Environment and the Department of Health and
19 Mental Hygiene shall provide staff for the Task Force.

20 (f) A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation for serving on
21 the Task Force but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
22 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

23 (g) The Task Force shall:

24 (1) Conduct a study of environmental health conditions in all classrooms,
25 including portable classrooms, throughout the State, that:

26 (i) Identifies potentially unhealthy environmental conditions and
27 their extent within classrooms in the State;

28 (ii) Evaluates classroom design and construction specifications,
29 ventilation systems, school maintenance practices, indoor air quality, and potentially
30 toxic contamination including mold and other biological contaminants; and

31 (iii) Identifies and recommends best practices to prevent harmful
32 environmental health conditions in classrooms; and

33 (2) On or before May 1, 2007, submit a report of its findings and
34 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
35 Government Article, the General Assembly.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 June 1, 2006. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of May 31,
3 2007, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
4 abrogated and of no further force and effect.