

# HOUSE BILL 397

D4

71r1283

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By: **Delegates Haddaway, Cane, Conway, Eckardt, Elmore, Mathias, Smigiel, Sossi, and Walkup**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2007

Assigned to: Judiciary

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 27, 2007

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Eastern Shore Task Force on Foster Care**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Eastern Shore Task Force on Foster Care;  
4 providing for the membership, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; specifying  
5 the duties of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to submit certain reports  
6 to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before certain dates;  
7 prohibiting members of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation;  
8 authorizing members of the Task Force to receive reimbursement for certain  
9 expenses; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the  
10 Eastern Shore Task Force on Foster Care.

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

13 (a) There is an Eastern Shore Task Force on Foster Care.

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

15 (1) two members of the House of Delegates from the Eastern Shore,  
16 appointed by the Speaker of the House;

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**EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (2) two members of the Senate of Maryland from the Eastern Shore,  
2 appointed by the President of the Senate;

3 (3) the Secretary of Human Resources, or the Secretary's designee;

4 (4) the Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee;

5 (5) ~~a director of a~~ the Director of the local department of social services  
6 from ~~one each~~ of the counties on the Eastern Shore, or the Director's designee;

7 (6) ~~a staff person from each of the local departments of social services~~  
8 ~~on the Eastern Shore who is responsible for the administration of the foster care~~  
9 ~~program~~ one representative from the Business Economic and Community Outreach  
10 Network unit of the Perdue School of Business at Salisbury University;

11 (7) a director of the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)  
12 organization of the Eastern Shore or the director's designee; and

13 ~~(7)~~ (8) two foster care parents from the Eastern Shore, appointed by the  
14 Governor.

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

16 (d) The Department of Human Resources shall provide staff for the Task  
17 Force.

18 (e) A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation as a member  
19 of the Task Force, but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard  
20 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

21 (f) The Task Force shall:

22 (1) consider incentives that will enhance recruitment and retention of  
23 foster care parents on the Eastern Shore including tax incentives, benefits packages  
24 such as health care, and the criteria for eligibility for these incentives;

25 (2) consider hiring of a permanent staff person in each local  
26 department of social services whose role shall be recruitment, retention, and support  
27 for foster care parents and consider potential funding sources for the positions; and

28 (3) make recommendations on improving the recruitment and  
29 retention of foster care parents on the Eastern Shore.

1 (g) (1) On or before December 31, 2007, the Task Force shall submit an  
2 interim report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance  
3 with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly.

4 (2) The Task Force shall submit a final report of its findings and  
5 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State  
6 Government Article, to the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2008.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
8 July 1, 2007. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June  
9 30, 2009, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be  
10 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.