

# HOUSE BILL 834

Q1  
HB 1578/06 – W&M

71r2472

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By: **Delegates Sossi, Glassman, Boteler, Eckardt, Elmore, Frank, Haddaway,  
Jennings, Smigiel, and Walkup**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2007

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Review the Property Tax Assessment Appeals Process**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Review the Property Tax Assessment  
4 Appeals Process; establishing the composition of the Task Force; requiring the  
5 Governor to designate the chair of the Task Force; authorizing the Task Force to  
6 establish certain subcommittees; providing for the staffing for the Task Force;  
7 prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation,  
8 but authorizing a member of the Task Force to receive certain reimbursements;  
9 requiring the Task Force to conduct certain studies and make certain  
10 evaluations and recommendations; requiring that the Task Force be formed by a  
11 certain date; requiring that the Task Force issue a final report by a certain date;  
12 providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task  
13 Force to Review the Property Tax Assessment Appeals Process.

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

16 (a) There is a Task Force to Review the Property Tax Assessment Appeals  
17 Process.

18 (b) The Task Force shall be composed of the following members:

19 (1) three members from the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the  
20 President of the Senate;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           (2) three members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the  
2 Speaker of the House;

3           (3) two representatives of the State Department of Assessments and  
4 Taxation, designated by the Director of Assessments and Taxation;

5           (4) one representative of the Property Tax Assessment Appeals Board,  
6 designated by the Administrator of the Property Tax Assessment Appeals Board;

7           (5) one representative of the Maryland Tax Court, designated by the  
8 Chief Judge of the Maryland Tax Court;

9           (6) two citizens of Maryland, appointed by the Governor, in  
10 consultation with the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House; and

11           (7) one member from the real estate community, appointed by the  
12 Governor, in consultation with the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
13 House.

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

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

17           (e) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff support for the  
18 Task Force.

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

22           (g) The Task Force shall:

23           (1) study the current three-step process by which a property owner  
24 may appeal a property assessment or reassessment for property taxation purposes;

25           (2) evaluate the effectiveness of the current process, taking into  
26 account the ease of access, degree of transparency, and difficulty navigating the  
27 process; and

28           (3) recommend necessary process or procedural updates based on Task  
29 Force findings.

1           (h)    The Task Force shall:

2                   (1)    be appointed and organize and begin its study and deliberations on  
3 or before August 1, 2007; and

4                   (2)    submit a final report of 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 June 1, 2007. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of May 31,  
9 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be  
10 abrogated and of no further force and effect.