

HOUSE BILL 977

M3

71r2504

By: **Delegate Costa**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2007

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on a Statewide Stormwater Management and Sediment Control**
3 **Initiative**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force on a Statewide Stormwater
5 Management and Sediment Control Initiative; establishing the membership and
6 staffing of the Task Force; requiring the Governor to designate the chair of the
7 Task Force; authorizing the Task Force to establish certain subcommittees;
8 requiring the Task Force to evaluate and make recommendations regarding
9 certain issues; requiring the Task Force to submit a final report to the Governor
10 and General Assembly regarding the recommendations by a certain date;
11 prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation,
12 but authorizing a member of the Task Force to receive certain reimbursements;
13 providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task
14 Force on a Statewide Stormwater Management and Sediment Control
15 Initiative.

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
17 MARYLAND, That:

18 (a) There is a Task Force on a Statewide Stormwater Management and
19 Sediment Control Initiative.

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

21 (1) One member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the
22 Senate;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) One member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
2 of the House;

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

4 (4) The Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary's designee;

5 (5) The Secretary of Planning, or the Secretary's designee;

6 (6) The Director of the Maryland Environmental Service, or the
7 Director's designee; and

8 (7) The following members appointed by the Governor with the advice
9 and consent of the Senate and the House of Delegates:

10 (i) One representative from the Maryland Municipal League;

11 (ii) One representative from the Maryland Association of
12 Counties;

13 (iii) One representative from the Center for Watershed
14 Protection, an organization based in Maryland;

15 (iv) One representative from the University of Maryland's Civil
16 and Environmental Engineering Department;

17 (v) Two representatives of a local land developer or construction
18 company;

19 (vi) One representative from the Alliance for the Chesapeake
20 Bay;

21 (vii) One representative from the Low Impact Development
22 Center, an organization based in Maryland;

23 (viii) One representative from a local government's chamber of
24 commerce; and

25 (ix) One representative from an environmental advocacy
26 organization.

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

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

3 (e) The Department of the Environment shall provide staff for the Task
4 Force.

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

8 (g) The Task Force shall:

9 (1) Evaluate and make recommendations to develop a minimum
10 science-based statewide standard for stormwater management and sediment control
11 that must be followed by local governments, including:

12 (i) Considering standards based on historical weather trends,
13 current best management practices, and methods for reducing nutrient pollution levels
14 that harm the Chesapeake Bay;

15 (ii) Evaluating the effectiveness of current statutes and
16 regulations as well as local ordinances that address stormwater management and
17 sediment control and making recommendations for changes as necessary to adopt
18 statewide standards;

19 (iii) Studying and recommending innovative approaches that
20 help minimize the release of pollutants and would assist the local jurisdiction in
21 meeting statewide stormwater management standards;

22 (iv) Determining best statewide practices for stormwater
23 management and sediment control to increase the viability of restoration efforts of the
24 native Maryland oyster and other Chesapeake Bay native species, as well as to ensure
25 the health of the Bay for future generations of Maryland citizens; and

26 (v) Developing methods to encourage, educate, and assist local
27 governments in using environmentally sensitive design measures and low impact
28 development techniques and developing more stringent standards than the statewide
29 standards; and

30 (2) On or before July 1, 2008, submit a report of its findings and
31 recommendations to the Governor, and in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
32 Government Article, to the General Assembly.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 July 1, 2007. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the
3 end of July 31, 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
4 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.