

HOUSE BILL 1349

M1

71r2966

By: **Delegate Kullen**

Introduced and read first time: March 1, 2007

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Patuxent River Commission**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study the Patuxent River
4 Commission; establishing the membership and staffing of the Task Force;
5 requiring the Governor to designate the chair of the Task Force; authorizing the
6 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 report to the Governor and the General Assembly and
9 certain committees regarding the recommendation by a certain date; prohibiting
10 a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but
11 authorizing a member of the Task Force to receive certain reimbursements;
12 providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task
13 Force to Study the Patuxent River Commission.

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

16 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Patuxent River Commission.

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

18 (1) One member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the
19 Senate;

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (3) The Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee;
- 2 (4) The Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary's designee;
- 3 (5) The Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary's designee;
- 4 (6) The Secretary of Planning, or the Secretary's designee;
- 5 (7) The Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's designee;
- 6 (8) The following members appointed by the Governor:
- 7 (i) Three representatives from the Patuxent River Commission,
8 including at least one commissioner who was recently appointed;
- 9 (ii) One representative from Environment Maryland;
- 10 (iii) One representative from the Patuxent Riverkeeper;
- 11 (iv) One representative from Maryland's Tributary Strategy
12 Program;
- 13 (v) One representative from a local government's zoning and
14 planning team;
- 15 (vi) One representative from the Maryland Association of
16 Counties;
- 17 (vii) One representative from the Maryland Municipal League;
18 and
- 19 (viii) One representative from the Patuxent River Civic
20 Association.
- 21 (c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.
- 22 (d) The Task Force may establish subcommittees as it determines necessary
23 to fulfill its duties.
- 24 (e) The Department of Natural Resources shall provide staff for the Task
25 Force.

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

4 (g) The Task Force shall:

5 (1) Evaluate and make recommendations regarding the focus and
6 work of the Patuxent River Commission, including:

7 (i) Determining ways the Commission may be more active and
8 effective as part of the Tributary Strategy implementation and as the Tributary
9 Strategy Team for the Patuxent Watershed;

10 (ii) Developing strategies for improving the Commission's
11 outreach and education efforts, in particular its duty to provide a clearinghouse of
12 information on the Patuxent River;

13 (iii) Evaluating the potential role the Commission should have in
14 order to be a vibrant part of the effort to clean up the Patuxent River; and

15 (iv) Suggesting legislation as necessary to improve the
16 Commission's role in the restoration and protection of the Patuxent River Watershed;
17 and

18 (2) On or before December 31, 2007, submit a report of its findings and
19 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
20 Government Article, to:

21 (i) The Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
22 Committee; and

23 (ii) The House Environmental Matters Committee.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 July 1, 2007. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30,
26 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
27 abrogated and of no further force and effect.