

CHAPTER 265

(House Bill 1150)

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Department of Transportation – Evaluation of the Telework Partnership with Employers Initiative

FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Transportation ~~to engage the services of an independent consultant~~ to evaluate the Department's Telework Partnership with Employers initiative; specifying that the Department ~~require the consultant to~~ issue a report of its findings and recommendations on or before a certain date to the Governor and the General Assembly; and generally relating to an evaluation of the Department of Transportation's Telework Partnership with Employers initiative.

Preamble

WHEREAS, The Maryland Department of Transportation has implemented the Telework Partnership with Employers initiative in collaboration with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments; and

WHEREAS, The Telework Partnership offers free professional telework consulting services to Maryland employers; and

WHEREAS, Telework benefits companies by allowing employees to work outside the traditional environment, whether at home or in a satellite office, thereby reducing traffic congestion on the State's highways and roads, producing less pollution, and lowering energy consumption; and

WHEREAS, Telework also benefits employers by reducing operating costs and increasing employee retention and morale; and

WHEREAS, Telework affords employees flexible work arrangements and reduced commuting costs, thereby providing a better work-family balance, reduced stress, improved job satisfaction, and reduced travel time and expense; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, ~~That, subject to the approval of the Board of Public Works, That~~ the Maryland Department of Transportation shall ~~engage the services of an independent~~

~~consultant to~~, *within currently budgeted resources*, evaluate the Department's Telework Partnership with Employers initiative. The Department shall ~~require that~~, on or before December 31, 2007, ~~the consultant~~ issue a report of its findings and recommendations regarding the telework initiative to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

Approved by the Governor, April 24, 2007.