

HOUSE BILL 307

M3
HB 476/07 – ENV

8lr1424

By: **Delegate Costa**

Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2008

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 of Maryland, appointed by the
22 President of the Senate;

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

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

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

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

4 (7) The Administrator of the Maryland State Highway
5 Administration, or the Administrator's designee; and

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

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

9 (ii) One representative from the Maryland Association of
10 Counties;

11 (iii) Three representatives from an environmental nonprofit
12 organization based in Maryland;

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

15 (v) Two representatives of a local land developer or construction
16 company;

17 (vi) Two representatives from the State Soil Conservation
18 Committee or soil conservation districts;

19 (vii) One representative from the U.S. Environmental Protection
20 Agency's Chesapeake Bay Program's scientific and technical advisory committee;

21 (viii) Three representatives from different counties or
22 municipalities who are from local agencies that oversee environmental resources,
23 watershed protection, erosion and sediment control, or stormwater management
24 programs; and

25 (ix) One representative from the University of Maryland's
26 Environmental Finance Center.

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

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

30 (e) The Department of the Environment shall provide staff for the Task
31 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 to improve the State's
6 erosion and sediment control and stormwater management regulations and programs,
7 including:

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

11 (ii) Evaluating the effectiveness of current statutes and
12 regulations as well as local ordinances that address stormwater management and
13 sediment control and making recommendations for changes as necessary to adopt
14 statewide standards;

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

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

22 (v) Developing methods to encourage, educate, and assist local
23 governments in using environmentally sensitive design measures and low-impact
24 development techniques and developing more stringent standards than the statewide
25 standards; and

26 (vi) Evaluate and make recommendations regarding improving
27 local stormwater practices, including:

28 1. Determining ways to improve maintenance and
29 oversight of stormwater ponds;

30 2. Evaluating the effectiveness of current practices that
31 local entities, such as homeowners associations, do to maintain stormwater
32 management ponds;

33 3. Studying and recommending innovative approaches
34 that help minimize the release of pollutants and assist a local jurisdiction in meeting
35 stormwater management requirements;

1 4. Evaluating statewide and local stormwater practices
2 to determine if the roles and responsibilities of different agencies regarding
3 stormwater management are an efficient use of the agency's resources and an effective
4 method for overall stormwater management; and

5 5. Developing methods and strategies to encourage,
6 educate, and assist local governments and developers in using environmentally
7 sensitive design measures and low-impact development techniques; and

8 (2) On or before July 1, 2009, submit a report of its findings and
9 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
10 Government Article, to the General Assembly.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 July 1, 2008. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the
13 end of July 31, 2009, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
14 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.