

# SENATE BILL 24

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8lr0931

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Senators Simonaire, Stone, and Jacobs**

Requested: October 22, 2007

Introduced and read first time: January 9, 2008

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act Task Force**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act  
4 Task Force; providing for the membership and duties of the Task Force;  
5 providing for the appointment of the chair and for the staffing of the Task Force;  
6 prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation;  
7 authorizing a member of the Task Force to receive reimbursement for certain  
8 expenses; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations  
9 to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing  
10 for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the establishment of a  
11 Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act Task Force.

12 WHEREAS, Congress enacted the Sex Offender Registration and Notification  
13 Act ("SORNA"), also known as the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of  
14 2006, which comprehensively revised and strengthened the minimum standards  
15 required of the states' sex offender registration and notification statutes; and

16 WHEREAS, Congress has mandated that individual states substantially comply  
17 with the requirements of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act by July  
18 27, 2009, as a condition of those states continuing to receive existing levels of federal  
19 funding through the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement  
20 Assistance Discretionary Grants Program; and

21 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Justice has encouraged the  
22 states to create multiagency task forces to facilitate and expedite compliance with the  
23 Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act; now, therefore,

24 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
25 MARYLAND, That:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) There is a Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act Task Force.

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

3 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the  
4 President of the Senate;

5 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker  
6 of the House;

7 (3) the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, or the  
8 Secretary's designee;

9 (4) the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's  
10 designee;

11 (5) the Superintendent of the Maryland State Police, or the  
12 Superintendent's designee;

13 (6) the Attorney General, or the Attorney General's designee;

14 (7) the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, or the Chief Judge's  
15 designee;

16 (8) the Maryland Public Defender, or the Public Defender's designee;

17 (9) the Director of Parole and Probation, or the Director's designee;

18 (10) the Director of the Information Technology and Communications  
19 Division of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, or the  
20 Director's designee; and

21 (11) the following members appointed by the Governor:

22 (i) one member of the Maryland Congressional Delegation, or  
23 the member's designee;

24 (ii) one representative of the Office of Crime Control and  
25 Prevention;

26 (iii) one representative of the Maryland State's Attorneys'  
27 Association;

28 (iv) one representative of the Maryland Sheriffs' Association;

29 (v) one representative of a children's advocate organization; and

30 (vi) one representative of a women's advocate organization.

1 (c) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall jointly  
2 appoint the chair of the Task Force from among the members of the Task Force.

3 (d) The President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, and the Governor  
4 shall make all appointments on or before July 1, 2008.

5 (e) The Task Force shall:

6 (1) study and make recommendations on State compliance with the  
7 Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act Guidelines;

8 (2) identify any noncompliance issues that would keep the State from  
9 achieving compliance with the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act by July  
10 27, 2009;

11 (3) review and analyze the State's existing methods of enforcing State  
12 and federal sex offender laws and make recommendations for the improvement of such  
13 enforcement; and

14 (4) prepare a report summarizing its findings and recommendations.

15 (f) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff for the Task  
16 Force.

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

20 (h) The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the  
21 Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the  
22 General Assembly on or before December 31, 2008.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
24 July 1, 2008. It shall remain effective for a period of 6 months and, at the end of  
25 December 31, 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act  
26 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.