

# SENATE BILL 949

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CF HB 1138

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By: **Senator Exum**

Introduced and read first time: February 26, 2008

Assigned to: Rules

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Gasoline Zone-Pricing in Maryland**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study Gasoline Zone-Pricing in  
4 Maryland; specifying the membership and duties of the Task Force; providing  
5 for the appointment of a Senate co-chair and House co-chair of the Task Force;  
6 providing for the staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task  
7 Force from receiving compensation for serving on the Task Force; authorizing a  
8 member of the Task Force to receive reimbursement for certain expenses;  
9 requiring a certain report on or before a certain date; providing for the  
10 termination of the Task Force; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study  
11 Gasoline Zone-Pricing in Maryland.

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
13 MARYLAND, That:

14 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Gasoline Zone-Pricing in Maryland.

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

16 (1) three members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the  
17 President of the Senate;

18 (2) three members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the  
19 Speaker of the House;

20 (3) the Attorney General, or the Attorney General's designee;

21 (4) the Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee; and

22 (5) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (i) one representative of service station dealers or operators  
2 named from a list provided by the Washington Maryland Delaware Service Station  
3 and Automotive Repair Association;

4 (ii) one representative of independent service station dealers or  
5 operators;

6 (iii) two representatives of gasoline suppliers;

7 (iv) one consumer advocate group representative;

8 (v) one economist familiar with the sale and distribution of  
9 petroleum in the State; and

10 (vi) three members of the public, with one member each  
11 representing:

12 1. an urban area of the State;

13 2. a suburban area of the State; and

14 3. a rural area of the State.

15 (c) (1) The President of the Senate shall designate one of the members  
16 appointed from the Senate of Maryland as co-chair of the Task Force.

17 (2) The Speaker of the House shall designate one of the members  
18 appointed from the House of Delegates as co-chair of the Task Force.

19 (d) The Office of the Comptroller shall provide staff for the Task Force.

20 (e) A member of the Task Force:

21 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

22 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard  
23 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

24 (f) The Task Force shall:

25 (1) study:

26 (i) the effect of gasoline zone-pricing on communities;

27 (ii) the effect of gasoline zone-pricing on consumers; and

28 (iii) the need for regulation in the area of gasoline pricing; and

1           (2)    make recommendations regarding the regulation of gasoline  
2 pricing, including statutory changes.

3           (g)    The Task Force shall submit an interim report of its findings and  
4 recommendations to the Governor and, subject to § 2–1246 of the State Government  
5 Article, to the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2008, and submit a final  
6 report to the Governor and, subject to § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, to the  
7 General Assembly on or before December 1, 2009.

8           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
9 July 1, 2008. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30,  
10 2010, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be  
11 abrogated and of no further force and effect.