

HOUSE BILL 1375

R1

9lr3204
CF SB 866

By: **Delegates Smigiel and Sossi**

Introduced and read first time: February 23, 2009

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commission to Study the Impact of Large Truck Traffic on the Chesapeake**
3 **Bay Bridge**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Commission to Study the Impact of Large Truck
5 Traffic on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge; providing for the membership and
6 staffing of the Commission; requiring the Governor to designate the chair of the
7 Commission; prohibiting members of the Commission from receiving certain
8 compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses;
9 requiring the Commission to study certain matters and to report its findings
10 and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a
11 certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to
12 the Commission to Study the Impact of Large Truck Traffic on the Chesapeake
13 Bay Bridge.

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

16 (a) There is a Commission to Study the Impact of Large Truck Traffic on the
17 Chesapeake Bay Bridge.

18 (b) The Commission consists of the following members:

19 (1) Two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
20 President of the Senate;

21 (2) Two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
22 of the House; and

23 (3) The following members appointed by the Governor:

24 (i) The Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's designee;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) A representative of the Maryland Transportation Authority
2 Board;

3 (iii) A member of the Maryland Motor Truck Association;

4 (iv) A member of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Citizens' Advisory
5 Board;

6 (v) A representative of the Maryland Association of Counties;
7 and

8 (vi) Four members from the general public.

9 (c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Commission after
10 consultation with the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House.

11 (d) The Department of Transportation shall provide staff support for the
12 Commission.

13 (e) A member of the Commission:

14 (1) May not receive compensation as a member of the Commission; but

15 (2) Is entitled to reimbursement of expenses under the Standard State
16 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

17 (f) The Commission shall examine and make findings and recommendations
18 on issues relating to large truck traffic on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, including:

19 (1) The current impact of large truck traffic on the Chesapeake Bay
20 Bridge and safety for drivers of two-axle vehicles;

21 (2) The impact of projected future growth in large truck traffic on the
22 Chesapeake Bay Bridge and safety for drivers of two-axle vehicles;

23 (3) The impact of banning large truck traffic on the Chesapeake Bay
24 Bridge at all times or during certain times of the day;

25 (4) The viability and likely effect of instituting a variable toll pricing
26 policy to incentivize large truck users to travel the Chesapeake Bay Bridge during
27 times of the day when traffic flow is likely to be less dense;

28 (5) The impact of the Commission's recommendations on projected
29 traffic flow on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and on surrounding highways and the
30 efficacy of current safety measures; and

1 (6) The cost of the Commission's recommendations to the trucking
2 industry and drivers of two-axle vehicles.

3 (g) On or before January 1, 2010, the Commission shall report its findings
4 and recommendations to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State
5 Government Article, the General Assembly.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 July 1, 2009. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30,
8 2010, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
9 abrogated and of no further force and effect.