

HOUSE BILL 795

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By: **Delegates Lee, Barkley, G. Clagett, Doory, Dumais, Frick, Gutierrez, Heller, Kaiser, McDonough, Montgomery, Nathan-Pulliam, Rice, Robinson, Tarrant, and Taylor**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2010

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Nanotechnology and Nanobiotechnology**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study Nanotechnology and
4 Nanobiotechnology; providing for the membership of the Task Force; providing
5 for the designation of cochairs of the Task Force; providing for the meeting
6 times and places of the Task Force; providing for the staffing of the Task Force;
7 prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving compensation and
8 authorizing reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to
9 study certain matters; requiring the Task Force to make certain
10 recommendations; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and
11 recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly on or before a certain
12 date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the
13 establishment of a Task Force to Study Nanotechnology and Nanobiotechnology.

14 Preamble

15 WHEREAS, Recent advances in nanotechnology and nanobiotechnology have
16 the potential to revolutionize the treatment of cancer and other serious diseases as
17 well as the development of state-of-the-art electronics, medical equipment, chemical
18 processes, building materials, and a wide array of other commercial products; and

19 WHEREAS, robust nanotechnology and nanobiotechnology industries in the
20 State will create jobs, generate significant revenue for the State, and improve the
21 quality of life for countless individuals; now, therefore,

22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
23 MARYLAND, That:

24 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Nanotechnology and Nanobiotechnology.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) (1) The Task Force consists of the following members:

2 (i) three members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
3 President of the Senate;

4 (ii) three members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the
5 Speaker of the House;

6 (iii) the Secretary of Business and Economic Development, or
7 the Secretary's designee;

8 (iv) the Chair of the Maryland Technology Development
9 Corporation (TEDCO), or the Chair's designee;

10 (v) the Chair of the Tech Council of Maryland, or the Chair's
11 designee; and

12 (vi) the following ten members appointed by the Governor:

13 1. three representatives of higher education institutions
14 in Maryland involved in research or scholarship on nanotechnology or
15 nanobiotechnology;

16 2. three individuals who serve as the chair or president
17 of a nanotechnology or nanobiotechnology organization or association;

18 3. two individuals who serve as chief executive officer of
19 private nanotechnology companies; and

20 4. two individuals who serve as chief executive officer of
21 private nanobiotechnology companies.

22 (2) The Governor shall also invite the following four representatives of
23 federal agencies to serve as members of the Task Force:

24 (i) the Director of the National Institutes of Health, or the
25 Director's designee;

26 (ii) the Director of the National Institute of Standards and
27 Technology, or the Director's designee;

28 (iii) the Director of the Food and Drug Administration, or the
29 Director's designee; and

30 (iv) the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark
31 Office, or the Director's designee.

1 (c) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall each
2 designate a member from the members appointed from the General Assembly to serve
3 as cochair of the Task Force.

4 (d) The Task Force shall meet at the times and places determined by the
5 cochairs.

6 (e) The Department of Business and Economic Development and the
7 Maryland Technology Development Corporation shall provide staff for the Task Force.

8 (f) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

12 (g) The Task Force shall:

13 (1) study:

14 (i) the benefits of nanotechnology and nanobiotechnology,
15 including:

16 1. job creation;

17 2. the development of lifesaving treatments;

18 3. reductions in health care costs;

19 4. the development of state-of-the-art electronics,
20 medical equipment, chemical processes, building materials, and other commercial
21 products;

22 5. the generation of revenue for the State; and

23 6. improvements to the quality of life for the State's
24 citizens; and

25 (ii) the State's role in supporting Maryland's leadership in
26 nanotechnology and nanobiotechnology, including:

27 1. promoting public-private partnerships;

28 2. assisting companies in technology transfers, including
29 from research to commercial product;

30 3. promoting research;

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- 1 4. protecting intellectual property;
- 2 5. offering appropriate financial incentives, including
- 3 tax credits; and
- 4 6. capturing and leveraging federal funds for both public
- 5 and private ventures; and

6 (2) make recommendations regarding actions that the State should
7 take to promote the growth of the nanotechnology and nanobiotechnology industries in
8 the State.

9 (h) On or before January 1, 2011, the Task Force shall report its findings and
10 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
11 Government Article, the General Assembly.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 June 1, 2010. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of May 31,
14 2011, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
15 abrogated and of no further force and effect.