

HB1218/175367/1

BY: Committee on Ways and Means

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 1218

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike in their entirety lines 2 and 3 and substitute “Task Force to Study the Improvement of Maryland Public Charter Schools”.

On pages 1 and 2, strike beginning with “authorizing” in line 4 on page 1 down through “regulations” in line 9 on page 2 and substitute “establishing a Task Force to Study the Improvement of Maryland Public Charter Schools; providing for the membership and duties of the Task Force; providing for the designation of a chair of the Task Force; requiring the State Department of Education to provide staff for the Task Force; prohibiting members of the Task Force from receiving compensation; authorizing a member to receive certain reimbursement; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act”.

On page 2, strike beginning with “chartering” in line 9 down through “schools” in line 10 and substitute “the establishment of a Task Force to Study the Improvement of Maryland Public Charter Schools”; and strike in their entirety lines 11 through 35, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 37, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”.

On pages 2 through 17, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 38 on page 2 through line 12 on page 17, inclusive, and substitute:

“(a) There is a Task Force to Study the Improvement of Maryland Public Charter Schools.”

(Over)

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

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

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

(3) the State Superintendent of Education, or the Superintendent's designee;

(4) two representatives of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education, appointed by the Executive Director; and

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

(i) one additional representative of the State Department of Education;

(ii) two representatives of the charter school community;

(iii) two representatives of charter school operators, one from Baltimore City and one from outside of Baltimore City;

(iv) one parent of a public school student; and

(v) three representatives of public school employees, one from the Baltimore Teachers Union, one from the Maryland State Education Association, and one who represents administrators.

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

- (d) The State Department of Education shall provide staff for the Task Force.
- (e) A member of the Task Force:
 - (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but
 - (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- (f) The Task Force shall:
 - (1) study the use of federal definitions relating to high quality charter schools;
 - (2) evaluate the current charter school application process and reauthorization process for effectiveness and fairness, including the appeals process;
 - (3) study whether additional authorizers are needed, what organizations might be appropriate authorizers, and how that process would work with county boards of education as the current authorizing authority;
 - (4) study whether existing government-owned buildings might be able to be used for charter school facilities and how charter school facilities might be funded;
 - (5) review procedures for ensuring the input of charter school operators in appointing principals and other leadership positions for charter schools; and
 - (6) study any other issue that the Task Force agrees to study that affects Maryland's ability to apply for the federal Charter School Grant Award

(Over)

Program, which provides funds to State education agencies for planning and development grants to charter schools.

(g) On or before September 30, 2013, the Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.”.

On page 17, in line 14, after the period insert “It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2014, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.