CHAPTER ______

AN ACT concerning

Task Force on the Membership and to Evaluate Best Practices for School Board Operation of the in Prince George’s County Board of Education

FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on the Membership and to Evaluate Best Practices for School Board Operation of the in Prince George’s County Board of Education; providing for the chairs and staff for the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation but entitling members to reimbursement for certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to make certain recommendations, including recommendations regarding the method of selecting the Prince George’s County Board of Education; requiring the Task Force to hold a certain number of public meetings in certain locations that allow certain persons to testify about certain issues; requiring the Task Force to review information, reports, and testimony regarding certain innovations in school board operation from certain organizations; requiring the Task Force to submit a certain report reports to certain persons on or before a certain date dates; requiring the Task Force to publish a draft of certain findings and recommendations and to hold a certain public hearing to allow certain public comment; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force on the Membership and to Evaluate Best Practices for School Board Operation of the in Prince George’s County Board of Education.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates amendments to bill.
Strikeout indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.
SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) There is a Task Force on the Membership and to Evaluate Best Practices for School Board Operation of the in Prince George’s County Board of Education.

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

1. the Chair of the Prince George’s County Senate Delegation, or the Chair’s designee;
2. one member of the Senate of Maryland who represents Prince George’s County, appointed by the Chair of the Prince George’s County Senate Delegation;
3. the Chair of the Prince George’s County House Delegation, or the Chair’s designee;
4. one member of the House of Delegates who represents Prince George’s County, appointed by the Chair of the Prince George’s County House Delegation;
5. the Chair of the Prince George’s County Board of Education, or the Chair’s designee;
6. the Superintendent of Prince George’s County Public Schools, or the Superintendent’s designee;
7. the Prince George’s County Executive, or the County Executive’s designee;
8. one member of the Prince George’s County Council, appointed by the Chair of the Prince George’s County Council; and
9. one member who represents the Maryland Association of Boards of Education, appointed by the Association.

6. the Chair of the Prince George’s County Council, or the Chair’s designee;
7. one teacher appointed by the Prince George’s County Educators’ Association; and
8. the following individuals jointly appointed by the Prince George’s County Executive and the Chair of the Prince George’s County Board of Education:
(i) two individuals who have experience in management or business enterprise;

(ii) two individuals who have expertise in the education field; and

(iii) two individuals who are parents of students in the Prince George’s County Public Schools, at least one of whom has a child who receives special education services.

(c) The Chair of the Prince George’s County Senate Delegation and the Chair of the Prince George’s County House Delegation shall jointly designate the cochairs of the Task Force from among the members of the Task Force from the Senate of Maryland and the House of Delegates.

(d) The Department of Legislative Services and staff of the Prince George’s County Delegation 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 study and make recommendations regarding the Prince George’s County Board of Education as to:

(1) the composition, qualifications, and compensation of members of the Board;

(2) methods for selecting the members of the Board;

(3) an appropriate phase-in period for any recommended changes to the existing Board composition;

(4) a Board composition that reflects the gender and racial diversity of Prince George’s County;

(5) criteria that improve standards and protocols to maximize Board results, accountability, transparency, and oversight;

(6) protocols for determining and measuring Board outcomes;

(4) protocols for increasing public awareness and providing objective voter information regarding school board elections;
(7) a protocol for the review of Board audits and protocols for addressing audit findings, including financial, performance, and outcome audits; and

(6) the means to increase the efficiency of the school board; and

(8) any other relevant issues.

(g) (1) (i) The Task Force shall hold at least three public meetings in geographically diverse areas of Prince George’s County that allow members of the general public and stakeholder organizations to testify on issues being studied by the Task Force.

(ii) One of the meetings required under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph may include a regularly scheduled public hearing of the Board.

(2) The Task Force shall extend an invitation to testify at a public meeting to representatives from the following stakeholder organizations to testify at a public meeting, including:

(i) the Prince George’s County Educator’s Association;

(ii) the Prince George’s County SEIU Local 400;

(iii) the Prince George’s County Association of Supervisory and Administrative School Personnel;

(iv) the Prince George’s County AFSCME 2250;

(v) the PTA Council of Prince George’s County;

(vi) the Prince George’s County Student Councils;

(vii) the Prince George’s County chapter of the NAACP;

(viii) the Prince George’s County Board of Education; and

(ix) the Prince George’s County Municipal Association.

(3) The Task Force shall review information, reports, and testimony relating to innovations in school board operation published by national organizations, including:

(i) the United States Department of Education;

(ii) the Council of Chief State School Officers;
(iii) the Council of State Governments;
(iv) the Education Commission of the States;
(v) the Alliance for Excellent Education;
(vi) the National Governor’s Association for Best Practices;
(vii) the National Association of State Boards of Education; and
(viii) the National Parent Teachers Association.

(h) (1) On or before December 1, 2013, the Task Force shall report its interim findings and recommendations to the Prince George’s County Executive, the Prince George’s County Council, the Prince George’s County Superintendent of Schools, the Prince George’s County Board of Education, and, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, the Prince George’s County Senate Delegation and the Prince George’s County House Delegation.

(2) Before reporting its final findings and recommendations as required under paragraph (3) of this subsection, the Task Force shall:

(i) publish a draft of its final findings and recommendations;

and

(ii) hold a public hearing to allow public comment on the draft final findings and recommendations.

(3) On or before October 31, 2013 December 1, 2014, the Task Force shall report its final findings and recommendations to the Governor, the State Superintendent of Schools, the Prince George’s County Executive, the Prince George’s County Council, the Prince George’s County Superintendent of Schools, the Prince George’s County Board of Education, and, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, the Prince George’s County Senate Delegation and the Prince George’s County House Delegation.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2013. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2014 2015, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.