

HOUSE BILL 1427

R2

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By: **Delegate Walker**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2014

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Expanding Metrorail Service in Southern Prince**
3 **George's County**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Expanding Metrorail Service
5 in Southern Prince George's County; providing for the membership, chair, and
6 staffing of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to consider certain
7 transportation-related issues and make recommendations relating to expanding
8 Metrorail service in certain areas of southern Prince George's County; requiring
9 the Task Force to report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before
10 a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating
11 to the Task Force to Study Expanding Metrorail Service in Southern Prince
12 George's County.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Expanding Metrorail Service in Southern
16 Prince George's County.

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

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

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

22 (3) the Maryland Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's
23 designee;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (4) the Administrator of the Maryland Transit Administration, or the
2 Administrator's designee;

3 (5) the Secretary of Budget and Management, or the Secretary's
4 designee;

5 (6) one member from the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit
6 Authority, appointed by the Board of Directors of the Authority;

7 (7) the County Executive of Prince George's County, or the County
8 Executive's designee;

9 (8) one member from the Prince George's County Department of
10 Public Works and Transportation, appointed by the County Executive of Prince
11 George's County;

12 (9) one representative of the South County Economic Development
13 Association, Inc., in Prince George's County;

14 (10) one representative of the owner of the National Harbor waterfront
15 development on the Potomac River in Prince George's County; and

16 (11) three residents of Prince George's County, at least one of whom
17 regularly commutes for work or other purposes to Washington, D.C., or to the inner
18 suburbs of Washington, D.C.

19 (c) At its first meeting, the Task Force shall elect a chair from among the
20 Task Force members.

21 (d) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

25 (e) The Task Force shall:

26 (1) study the rail transit needs of southern Prince George's County in
27 the MD 201/I-295 corridor, in particular in the National Harbor area and points south
28 to Indian Head, Maryland;

29 (2) identify and evaluate potential rights-of-way for stations and
30 other infrastructure that would be needed to expand Metrorail service in southern
31 Prince George's County in the designated MD 201/I-295 corridor;

1 (3) estimate the cost of expanding Metrorail service in southern Prince
2 George's County in the designated MD 201/I-295 corridor;

3 (4) estimate the economic impact on Prince George's County, the
4 State, and the Washington metropolitan region of expanding Metrorail service in
5 southern Prince George's County in the designated MD 201/I-295 corridor; and

6 (5) study and make recommendations regarding:

7 (i) the amount of funding needed to support expanding
8 Metrorail service in southern Prince George's County in the designated MD 201/I-295
9 corridor; and

10 (ii) potential funding sources and mechanisms to support
11 expanding Metrorail service in southern Prince George's County in the designated MD
12 201/I-295 corridor.

13 (f) The Task Force may:

14 (1) conduct site visits to view rail transportation systems in Maryland
15 and in other jurisdictions; and

16 (2) hold public hearings and solicit input from interested persons,
17 including:

18 (i) the county and municipal governing bodies in southern
19 Prince George's County in the designated MD 201/I-295 corridor;

20 (ii) citizens from throughout the Washington, D.C.,
21 metropolitan region who utilize Metrorail or other transit service or who otherwise are
22 interested in the availability of mass transit service; and

23 (iii) other members of the public.

24 (g) The Maryland Department of Transportation and the Prince George's
25 County Department of Public Works and Transportation shall provide staff support for
26 the Task Force.

27 (h) The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the
28 Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General
29 Assembly on or before December 1, 2014.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
31 June 1, 2014. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of May 31,
32 2015, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
33 abrogated and of no further force and effect.