

HOUSE BILL 1525

P1

4r3083

By: **Delegates George, Beitzel, McConkey, McMillan, and Schuh**

Introduced and read first time: March 3, 2014

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Government – Commission on Efficiency in State Government –**
3 **Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission on Efficiency in State Government;
5 providing for the composition, chair, vice chair, and staffing of the Commission;
6 specifying the terms of the initial members of the Commission; prohibiting a
7 member of the Commission from receiving certain compensation, but
8 authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; providing that a majority of
9 the members of the Commission is a quorum; requiring the Commission to meet
10 a certain number of times per year; requiring the Commission to study and
11 make recommendations regarding the efficiency of units of State government;
12 requiring the Commission to study certain departments at certain intervals and
13 other units at its discretion; requiring, beginning on a certain date and every
14 year thereafter, the Commission to report its findings and recommendations to
15 the Governor and the General Assembly; requiring that the report include
16 whether a unit has failed to implement certain recommendations; requiring a
17 unit to provide the Commission with any information the Commission requires
18 to carry out its duties; requiring, under certain circumstances, the General
19 Assembly to reduce the amount included in certain budget bills for certain units
20 by a certain amount; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the
21 Commission on Efficiency in State Government.

22 BY adding to

23 Article – State Government

24 Section 9–3101 through 9–3108 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 31.
25 Commission on Efficiency in State Government”

26 Annotated Code of Maryland

27 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 FIRMS JOINTLY SHALL DESIGNATE THE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE
2 COMMISSION.

3 (2) THE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION SHALL BE
4 MEMBERS OF DIFFERENT POLITICAL PARTIES.

5 9-3104.

6 (A) (1) MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION SERVE A 3-YEAR TERM.

7 (2) THE TERMS OF THE MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED
8 BY THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 1,
9 2014.

10 (3) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE
11 UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.

12 (4) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN
13 SERVES ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS
14 APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.

15 (B) A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION:

16 (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE
17 COMMISSION; BUT

18 (2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE
19 STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE
20 BUDGET.

21 (C) (1) A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION IS A
22 QUORUM.

23 (2) THE COMMISSION SHALL MEET AT LEAST SIX TIMES A YEAR.

24 9-3105.

25 THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES SHALL PROVIDE STAFF
26 FOR THE COMMISSION.

27 9-3106.

1 **(A) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE**
2 **COMMISSION SHALL:**

3 **(I) STUDY UNITS OF STATE GOVERNMENT TO DETERMINE**
4 **HOW THE UNITS CAN BE MORE EFFICIENT; AND**

5 **(II) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING WAYS TO**
6 **IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF STATE GOVERNMENT AND SAVE THE STATE**
7 **MONEY.**

8 **(2) THE COMMISSION SHALL STUDY:**

9 **(I) THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**
10 **AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES AT LEAST ONCE EVERY 2**
11 **YEARS; AND**

12 **(II) OTHER UNITS OF STATE GOVERNMENT AT THE**
13 **DISCRETION OF THE COMMISSION.**

14 **(B) (1) BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 30, 2015, AND EVERY YEAR**
15 **THEREAFTER, THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS**
16 **AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH §**
17 **2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

18 **(2) THE REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS**
19 **SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE WHETHER A UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT HAS**
20 **FAILED TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE IN A PREVIOUS REPORT**
21 **SUBMITTED BY THE COMMISSION.**

22 **9-3107.**

23 **A UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT SHALL PROVIDE THE COMMISSION WITH**
24 **ANY INFORMATION THE COMMISSION REQUIRES TO CARRY OUT ITS DUTIES.**

25 **9-3108.**

26 **IF A REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BY THE**
27 **COMMISSION UNDER § 9-3106(B) OF THIS SUBTITLE CONTAINS A FINDING THAT**
28 **A UNIT HAS FAILED TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE IN A**
29 **PREVIOUS REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE COMMISSION, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
30 **SHALL REDUCE THE AMOUNT INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET BILL SUBMITTED BY**
31 **THE GOVERNOR IN JANUARY EACH YEAR FOR THE UNIT BY THE AMOUNT THAT**
32 **THE STATE WOULD SAVE EACH FISCAL YEAR IF THE UNIT HAD IMPLEMENTED**

1 THE RECOMMENDATIONS UNTIL THE UNIT REPORTS TO THE COMMISSION AND
2 THE COMMISSION DETERMINES THAT THE UNIT HAS IMPLEMENTED THE
3 RECOMMENDATIONS.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the initial
5 members of the Commission on Efficiency in State Government shall expire as follows:

- 6 (1) two members in 2015;
- 7 (2) three members in 2016; and
- 8 (3) three members in 2017.

9 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
10 October 1, 2014.