

# SENATE BILL 505

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CF 4r2160

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By: **Senator Kelley**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2014

Assigned to: Finance

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Family Caregiving and Long-Term Supports**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on Family Caregiving and Long-Term  
4 Supports; providing for the composition of the Task Force; prohibiting a member  
5 of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the  
6 reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to make  
7 recommendations for legislative and administrative action relating to family  
8 caregiving; requiring the Task Force to report certain recommendations to the  
9 Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for  
10 the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force on Family  
11 Caregiving and Long-Term Supports.

12 Preamble

13 WHEREAS, 770,000 Marylanders are taking care of loved ones who are aging,  
14 have failing health, or are children; and

15 WHEREAS, Almost all older adults who need assistance with activities of daily  
16 living want to remain in their homes and communities; and

17 WHEREAS, Providing services and supports to older adults in their homes and  
18 communities is generally much less expensive than nursing home care or adult day  
19 care; and

20 WHEREAS, Almost three-fourths of older adults living in the community who  
21 receive personal assistance rely exclusively on unpaid caregivers for help; and

22 WHEREAS, Older adults who receive cost-effective services in their homes are  
23 much less likely to need public assistance; and

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           WHEREAS, To successfully address the surging population of older adults who  
2 have significant needs for long-term services and supports, the State must develop  
3 methods both to encourage and to support families to assist their aging relatives and  
4 recruit and retain a qualified, responsive in-home care workforce; now, therefore,

5           SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
6 MARYLAND, That:

7           (a)     There is a Task Force on Family Caregiving and Long-Term Supports.

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

9                   (1)     one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President  
10 of the Senate;

11                   (2)     one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
12 the House;

13                   (3)     one representative of the Department of Human Resources,  
14 appointed by the Secretary of Human Resources;

15                   (4)     one representative of the Department of Aging, appointed by the  
16 Secretary of Aging;

17                   (5)     one representative of the Department of Health and Mental  
18 Hygiene, appointed by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene;

19                   (6)     one representative of AARP Maryland, appointed by the AARP  
20 Maryland State President;

21                   (7)     one representative of the March of Dimes Maryland-National  
22 Capital Area, appointed by the Executive Director of the March of Dimes  
23 Maryland-National Capital Area;

24                   (8)     one representative of the Alzheimer's Association, Greater  
25 Maryland Chapter, appointed by the Executive Director of the Alzheimer's  
26 Association, Greater Maryland Chapter; and

27                   (9)     three family caregivers.

28           (c)     A member of the Task Force:

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

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

1 (d) The Task Force shall:

2 (1) identify policies, resources, and programs available for family  
3 caregivers and find additional innovative and creative means to support family  
4 caregivers to continue to provide needed in-home supports for older adults;

5 (2) receive testimony on the needs of family caregivers, including  
6 designation of caregivers, training, respite services, medical leave policies, delegation  
7 of tasks to nonmedical aides, and other related policies; and

8 (3) compile an inventory of the resources available to family  
9 caregivers.

10 (e) On or before January 31, 2015, the Task Force shall report its  
11 recommendations for legislative and administrative action to the Governor and, in  
12 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
14 July 1, 2014. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30,  
15 2015, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be  
16 abrogated and of no further force and effect.