HOUSE BILL 1009

G1 6lr2828

By: Delegates Platt, Carr, Clippinger, Cullison, Ebersole, Gutierrez, Holmes, Jackson, Korman, Luedtke, Moon, Morales, B. Robinson, Sample-Hughes, Sanchez, Smith, Tarlau, Turner, Waldstreicher, and M. Washington, A. Washington, Fennell, and Patterson

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2016

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments House action: Adopted with floor amendments

Read second time: March 16, 2016

CHAPTER	
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1 AN ACT concerning

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Task Force to Study Increased Voter Participation

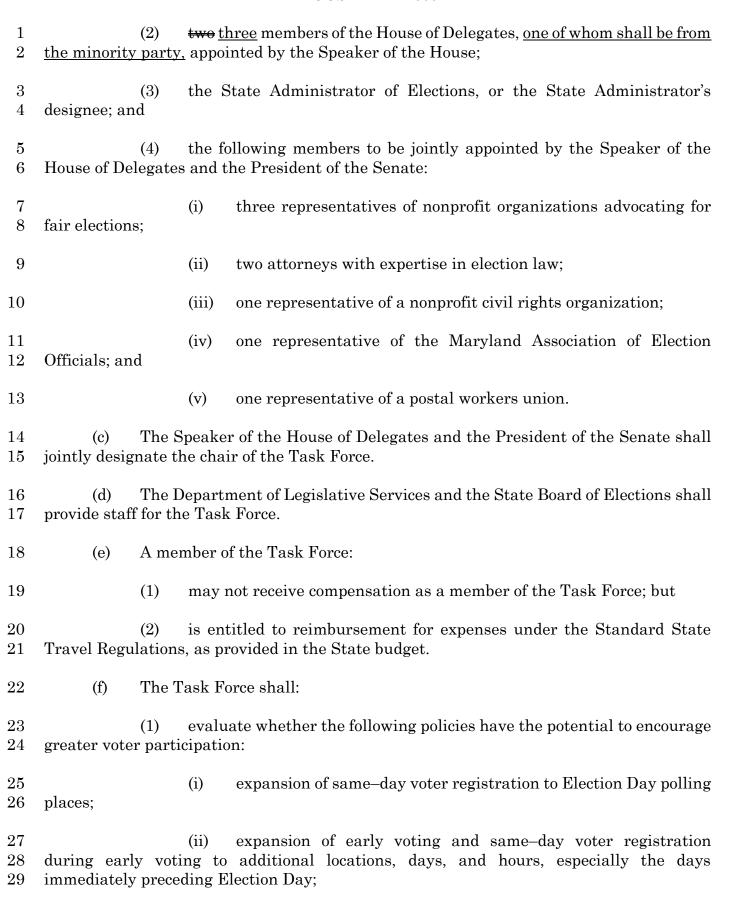
- 3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Increased Voter Participation; 4 providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a 5 member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the 6 reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to evaluate policies 7 that have the potential to increase voter participation; requiring the Task Force to 8 report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly 9 on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally 10 relating to the Task Force to Study Increased Voter Participation.
- 11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, 12 That:
- 13 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Increased Voter Participation.
- 14 (b) The Task Force consists of:
- 15 (1) two three members of the Senate of Maryland, one of whom shall be 16 from the minority party, appointed by the President of the Senate;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



$\frac{1}{2}$	(iii) a vote-by-mail system under which all registered voters receive a ballot and return the ballot by mail; and
3 4 5	(iv) greater utilization of the State's current opt—in vote—by—mail system along with continued utilization of early voting centers and Election Day polling places for in—person voting;
6 7	(2) identify any other policy changes that in the Task Force's estimation have the potential to increase voter participation; and
8 9	(3) for each policy listed in paragraph (1) of this subsection and any other policies the Task Force identifies that have the potential to increase voter participation:
10 11	(i) evaluate the impact of the policy on the security and integrity of the electoral process;
12 13	(ii) estimate the cost to the State and local boards of elections of implementing the policy;
14	(iii) identify any other important effects of implementing the policy;
15 16	(iv) identify any measures that should be taken to mitigate any adverse effects of implementing the policy; and
17 18	(v) considering all the advantages and disadvantages of the policy, determine whether the Task Force recommends adoption of the policy.
19 20 21	(g) On or before December 31, 2017, the Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with \S 2–1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.
22 23 24 25	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2016. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 1 month and, at the end of June 30, 2018, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.
	Approved:
	Governor.
	Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.