

# HOUSE BILL 1432

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CF SB 802

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By: **Delegates Hayes, Anderson, Carter, Glenn, Lierman, Moon, Platt, B. Robinson, and Rosenberg**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2016

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Examine Incentives and Funding Sources for Food Deserts**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Examine Incentives and Funding  
4 Sources for Food Deserts; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the  
5 Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain  
6 compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; establishing  
7 the duties of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and  
8 recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain  
9 date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task  
10 Force to Examine Incentives and Funding Sources for Food Deserts.

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
12 That:

13 (a) There is a Task Force to Examine Incentives and Funding Sources for Food  
14 Deserts.

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

16 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
17 the Senate;

18 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
19 the House;

20 (3) the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's  
21 designee;

22 (4) the Secretary of Housing and Community Development, or the  
23 Secretary's designee;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (5) the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary's designee;

2 (6) the Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee;

3 (7) a representative of the Maryland Retailers Association; and

4 (8) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

5 (i) one representative of an urban local economic development  
6 organization in the State;

7 (ii) one representative of a rural local economic development  
8 organization in the State;

9 (iii) one representative of a local grocery store or supermarket  
10 retailer; and

11 (iv) one professor knowledgeable in economics and health policy.

12 (c) The Task Force shall elect a chair from among its members.

13 (d) The Department of Housing and Community Development shall provide staff for  
14 the Task Force.

15 (e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

19 (f) The Task Force shall:

20 (1) review existing incentive and financing programs in the State available  
21 to encourage the establishment of grocery stores and supermarket retailers in food deserts;

22 (2) identify ways to attract grocery stores and supermarket retailers in  
23 urban and rural food deserts throughout the State; and

24 (3) make recommendations regarding specific funding sources available for  
25 fresh food financing initiatives and programs in the State, including an estimate of the  
26 annual expenditures necessary to attract grocery stores and supermarket retailers in food  
27 deserts.

1 (g) On or before October 1, 2017, the Task Force shall report its findings and  
2 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State  
3 Government Article, the General Assembly.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
5 1, 2016. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 6 months and, at the end of  
6 December 31, 2017, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall  
7 be abrogated and of no further force and effect.