

HOUSE BILL 1466

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By: **Delegates A. Washington, Kaiser, Morales, Platt, and Walker**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2016

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Restorative Justice Discipline Practices in Maryland**
3 **Public Schools**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Restorative Justice Discipline
5 Practices in Maryland Public Schools; providing for the composition, chair, and
6 staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving
7 certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses;
8 requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding certain
9 matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the
10 Governor and the General Assembly on or before certain dates; providing for the
11 termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Restorative
12 Justice Discipline Practices in Maryland Public Schools.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
14 That:

15 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Restorative Justice Discipline Practices in
16 Maryland Public Schools.

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

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

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

22 (3) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent's
23 designee;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (4) the President of the State Board of Education, or the President's
2 designee;

3 (5) the Secretary of Juvenile Services, or the Secretary's designee;

4 (6) the President of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education, or
5 the President's designee;

6 (7) the President of the Maryland State Education Association, or the
7 President's designee;

8 (8) the President of the Maryland Association of Student Councils, or the
9 President's designee;

10 (9) two representatives of the Maryland Association of School Resource
11 Officers, appointed by the President of the Maryland Association of School Resource
12 Officers;

13 (10) the President of the Maryland Association of Elementary School
14 Principals, or the President's designee;

15 (11) the President of the Maryland Association of Secondary School
16 Principals, or the President's designee;

17 (12) one teacher of a public school in Maryland, appointed by the Governor;

18 (13) the President of the American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland, or the
19 President's designee; and

20 (14) the Director of The Johns Hopkins Institute for Education Policy, or the
21 Director's designee.

22 (c) The State Superintendent of Schools, or State Superintendent's designee,
23 shall be the chair of the Task Force.

24 (d) The State Department of Education shall provide staff for the Task Force.

25 (e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

29 (f) The Task Force shall:

1 (1) study and analyze the current disciplinary practices in Maryland public
2 schools;

3 (2) investigate potential implementation options regarding redesigning
4 restorative justice discipline practices; and

5 (3) examine national best practices for training of school police officers,
6 school security officers, and school resource officers.

7 (g) (1) On or before October 1, 2016, the Maryland Police Academy, the
8 Maryland Police Training Commission, and the Maryland Association of School Resource
9 Officers shall brief the Task Force on current training practices of Maryland school police
10 officers, school security officers, and school resource officers for each local education agency.

11 (2) On or before October 1, 2017, the State Department of Education shall
12 brief the Task Force on:

13 (i) 2 years of school-level student arrest data;

14 (ii) the number of times each student behavior and response was
15 used by school, referencing Section II of the Maryland Guidelines for a State Code of
16 Discipline document adopted July 22, 2014, by the State Board of Education, to determine
17 student behavior and response to be measured; and

18 (iii) how each local education agency is executing the current
19 disciplinary practices.

20 (h) The Task Force shall make recommendations on:

21 (1) the establishment of a Collaborative Action Plan, which could create a
22 statewide framework for redesigning public school discipline practices around restorative
23 justice practices;

24 (2) legislative and policy initiatives that can be utilized to enact a
25 Collaborative Action Plan;

26 (3) bringing Maryland into compliance with national best practices on
27 school police officer, school security officer, and school resource officer training if Maryland
28 is not currently utilizing national best practices; and

29 (4) any additional findings of the Task Force.

30 (i) On or before January 1, 2017, the Task Force shall report its findings and
31 recommendations regarding school police officer, school security officer, and school resource
32 officer training to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government
33 Article, the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL 1466

1 (j) On or before January 1, 2018, the Task Force shall report its final findings
2 and 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 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2018,
6 with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and
7 of no further force and effect.