

SB0453/609839/1

BY: Budget and Taxation Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 453
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike in their entirety lines 2 and 3 and substitute:

“Workgroup to Study the Optional Retirement Program”;

strike in their entirety lines 4 through 10, inclusive, and substitute:

“FOR the purpose of establishing the Workgroup to Study the Optional Retirement Program; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Workgroup; prohibiting a member of the Workgroup from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Workgroup to study and make recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Workgroup to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Workgroup to Study the Optional Retirement Program.”;

and strike in their entirety lines 11 through 20, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 1 through 5, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 22 on page 1 through line 7 on page 5, inclusive, and substitute “That:

- (a) There is a Workgroup to Study the Optional Retirement Program.
- (b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:

(Over)

SB0453/609839/1 Budget and Taxation Committee
Amendments to SB 453
Page 2 of 4

(1) a representative of the Maryland Higher Education Commission, appointed by the Secretary of Higher Education;

(2) the following representatives of public 4-year institutions of higher education, including representatives of Administrative Affairs and Academic Affairs:

(i) a representative of the University System of Maryland, appointed by the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland;

(ii) a representative of Morgan State University, appointed by the President of Morgan State University; and

(iv) a representative of St. Mary's College of Maryland, appointed by the President of St. Mary's College of Maryland;

(3) a representative of the Maryland Association of Community Colleges, appointed by the Executive Director of the Maryland Association of Community Colleges;

(4) a representative of the Department of Budget and Management, appointed by the Secretary of Budget and Management;

(5) a representative of the State Retirement Agency, appointed by the Executive Director of the State Retirement Agency; and

(6) a representative of a bargaining unit for nonexempt employees, appointed by the Governor.

(c) The Workgroup shall elect a chair from among its members.

(d) The University System of Maryland shall provide staff for the Workgroup.

SB0453/609839/1 Budget and Taxation Committee
Amendments to SB 453
Page 3 of 4

(e) A member of the Workgroup:

(1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Workgroup; but

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

(f) The Workgroup shall:

(1) review the population of employees eligible to participate in the Optional Retirement Program, including:

(i) the number of employees in various employment categories, such as exempt and nonexempt categories;

(ii) participation rates by employment categories; and

(iii) changes in participation rates over time;

(2) review the contribution requirements for the Optional Retirement Program, including:

(i) the State contribution rate for participants of the Optional Retirement Program; and

(ii) the appropriateness of an employee contribution for participants of the Optional Retirement Program;

(3) review the eligibility criteria for health benefits of Optional Retirement Program participants, including:

(Over)

SB0453/609839/1 Budget and Taxation Committee
Amendments to SB 453
Page 4 of 4

(i) the number of years of service participants in the Optional Retirement Program are required to have to be eligible for retiree health benefits and a prorated retiree health benefit subsidy;

(ii) the number of years of service participants in the Optional Retirement Program are required to have for their spouses and dependents to be eligible for retiree health benefits; and

(iii) whether any changes should be recommended to the eligibility criteria for the Optional Retirement Program that would authorize a prorated retiree health benefit subsidy for the spouses and dependents of participants of the Optional Retirement Program; and

(4) make recommendations regarding any changes to the Optional Retirement Program that would improve the program and would be beneficial to the participants in the program and the State.

(g) On or before December 1, 2016, the Workgroup shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 5, in line 9, after the period insert “It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2017, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.