

# SENATE BILL 731

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CF HB 831

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By: **Senators Norman, Cassilly, Hough, Kelley, Lee, Ramirez, Ready, Smith, and Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2017

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Organized Retail Crime Rings**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on Organized Retail Crime Rings;  
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 study and make  
7 recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its  
8 findings and recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly on or  
9 before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating  
10 to the Task Force on Organized Retail Crime Rings.

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

12 That:

13 (a) There is a Task Force on Organized Retail Crime Rings.

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

15 (1) a member of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, appointed by  
16 the President of the Senate;

17 (2) a member of the House Judiciary Committee, appointed by the Speaker  
18 of the House;

19 (3) the Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee;

20 (4) the Comptroller or the Comptroller's designee;

21 (5) the Superintendent of the Maryland State Police or the  
22 Superintendent's designee; and

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (6) the following individuals, appointed by the Governor:
- 2 (i) a representative of the Maryland Retailers Association;
- 3 (ii) a representative of the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association,  
4 Inc.;
- 5 (iii) a representative of the Maryland State's Attorneys' Association;
- 6 (iv) a representative of the Maryland Sheriffs' Association; and
- 7 (v) two loss prevention professionals.
- 8 (c) The Task Force shall elect a chair of the Task Force from among its members.
- 9 (d) The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention shall provide staff for  
10 the Task Force.
- 11 (e) A member of the Task Force:
- 12 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but
- 13 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
14 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- 15 (f) The Task Force shall, at a minimum:
- 16 (1) examine the effects of organized retail crime rings on businesses in the  
17 State;
- 18 (2) determine the factors related to the proliferation of organized retail  
19 crime;
- 20 (3) examine the criminal penalties associated with organized retail crime;
- 21 (4) consult and coordinate with pertinent entities to identify effective  
22 measures to curtail organized retail crime rings; and
- 23 (5) recommend legislation to combat organized retail crime rings.
- 24 (g) The Task Force shall meet at least twice at such times and places as it  
25 determines.
- 26 (h) On or before October 1, 2018, the Task Force shall report its findings and  
27 recommendations, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the  
28 Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee and the House Judiciary Committee.

1           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
2 1, 2017. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 6 months and, at the end of  
3 December 31, 2018, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall  
4 be abrogated and of no further force and effect.