

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2017 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1152
Judiciary

(Delegate Ciliberti, *et al.*)

Task Force to Examine Reinstatement of the Death Penalty

This bill establishes the Task Force to Examine Reinstatement of the Death Penalty. The Governor must designate the chair of the task force, and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) must provide staff for the task force. By December 1, 2018, the task force must report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly.

The bill terminates September 30, 2019.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any expense reimbursements for task force members and staffing costs for DPSCS are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The task force must:

- study which crimes may be suitable for reinstatement of the death penalty in Maryland;
- review the best practices of jurisdictions that have retained the administration of the death penalty; and

- make recommendations regarding any changes to the criminal justice system that would allow Maryland to reinstate the death penalty fairly and equitably.

A member of the task force may not receive compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the standard State travel regulations, as provided in the State budget.

Background: Chapter 156 of 2013 repealed the death penalty in Maryland and made corresponding changes to applicable statutory provisions.

State Expenditures: DPSCS advises that although it can assign an existing employee to staff the task force, doing so may detract from the employee's ability to carry out other assigned duties.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services;
Department of Legislative Services

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