

HOUSE BILL 1399

Q7, J1, C2

8lr1776
CF SB 833

By: **Delegates Waldstreicher, Atterbeary, D. Barnes, Corderman, Folden, Grammer, Gutierrez, Hornberger, Jackson, Jacobs, Kittleman, Korman, Krimm, Long, McKay, W. Miller, Moon, Otto, Turner, Vogt, Wivell, and K. Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2018

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on the Regulation of Caterers**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on the Regulation of Caterers; providing
4 for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of
5 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 the regulatory framework for caterers; requiring the
8 Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the
9 General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this
10 Act; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the Task Force on the
11 Regulation of Caterers.

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

14 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

15 (2) “Caterer” means a food service facility licensed under § 21–312.1 of the
16 Health – General Article that offers catering services or identifies itself as a caterer.

17 (3) “Catering services” means the preparation or provision and the serving
18 of food or drink by a food service facility for service at the provider’s premises or elsewhere
19 in connection with a specific event or a business or social function or affair.

20 (b) There is a Task Force on the Regulation of Caterers.

21 (c) (1) The Task Force consists of the following members:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (i) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
2 President of the Senate;

3 (ii) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
4 of the House;

5 (iii) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee;

6 (iv) the Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee; and

7 (v) five owners or operators of caterers, appointed by the Governor.

8 (2) In appointing the members under paragraph (1)(v) of this subsection,
9 the Governor shall seek to achieve geographic diversity and diversity in the size of caterers.

10 (d) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

11 (e) The Office of the Comptroller shall provide staff for the Task Force.

12 (f) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

16 (g) The Task Force shall:

17 (1) study the following issues:

18 (i) existing Maryland Department of Health regulations of licensed
19 food service facilities that provide catering services;

20 (ii) the process by which caterers are audited and inspected;

21 (iii) how the regulatory framework for caterers within the State
22 compares with the regulatory framework in other states;

23 (iv) national best practices for regulating caterers; and

24 (v) the impact on Maryland consumers of the existing regulatory
25 framework for caterers; and

26 (2) make recommendations, based on the issues studied under item (1) of
27 this subsection, including:

28 (i) possible changes to regulations or statutory law; and

1 (ii) a possible cessation of audits and inspections of caterers for a
2 period of time.

3 (h) On or before January 1, 2019, the Task Force shall report its findings and
4 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
5 Government Article, the General Assembly.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
7 1, 2018. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June
8 30, 2019, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
9 abrogated and of no further force and effect.