

SENATE BILL 833

Q7, J1, C2

8lr3239
CF 8lr1776

By: **Senators Madaleno, Hough, Ready, Rosapepe, and Smith**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2018

Assigned to: Finance

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:

22 (i) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
23 President of the Senate;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (ii) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
2 of the House;
- 3 (iii) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee;
- 4 (iv) the Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee; and
- 5 (v) five owners or operators of caterers, appointed by the Governor.

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

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

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

10 (f) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

14 (g) The Task Force shall:

15 (1) study the following issues:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 (ii) a possible cessation of audits and inspections of caterers for a
28 period of time.

1 (h) On or before January 1, 2019, the Task Force shall report its findings and
2 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 June
5 1, 2018. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June
6 30, 2019, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
7 abrogated and of no further force and effect.