

SENATE BILL 1032

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By: **Senator Nathan–Pulliam**

Introduced and read first time: March 4, 2019

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Morgan State University – Task Force on Reconciliation and Equity – Extension**

3 FOR the purpose of extending the date by which the Institute for Urban Research at
4 Morgan State University must submit a full report on the activities, findings, and
5 recommendations of the Task Force on Reconciliation and Equity to the Governor
6 and the General Assembly; extending the termination date for certain provisions of
7 law relating to the Task Force; and generally relating to the Task Force on
8 Reconciliation and Equity.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Chapter 417 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2018
11 Section 1 and 2

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
13 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Chapter 417 of the Acts of 2018**

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
16 That:

17 (a) The Institute for Urban Research at Morgan State University shall convene a
18 task force to foster reconciliation and inclusionary justice and work toward achieving racial
19 equity by:

20 (1) increasing awareness through public discussions about the nature,
21 extent, causes, and consequences of racial inequities;

22 (2) involving individuals and public and private entities, including African
23 American and other minority groups, in every sector throughout the State in a collective
24 process;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (3) fostering racial equity through recognition, understanding, adjustment,
2 compromise, and repair; and

3 (4) recommending strategies, changes, and actions in institutions, policies,
4 and laws to eliminate systemic racism and promote equity, access, and opportunity that
5 can lead to healing and foster reconciliation.

6 (b) (1) The members of the task force required to be convened under this
7 section shall include:

8 (i) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
9 President of the Senate;

10 (ii) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
11 of the House;

12 (iii) the Director of the Office of Minority Health and Health
13 Disparities, or the Director's designee;

14 (iv) one representative of the National Association for the
15 Advancement of Colored People;

16 (v) one representative of the Maryland Public Health Association;

17 (vi) two representatives, one each from two different social justice
18 organizations that focus on racial issues via use of a racial equity lens;

19 (vii) three representatives, one each from three different interfaith
20 organizations;

21 (viii) one sociologist with expertise concerning historical and current
22 impacts of systemic and structural racism;

23 (ix) one representative of a historically black college or university;

24 (x) one representative of a traditionally white college or university;

25 (xi) one representative of the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum;

26 (xii) one representative of a business sector coalition; and

27 (xiii) one member with expertise in law enforcement.

28 (2) To the extent practicable, the members of the task force shall:

29 (i) have expertise in the historical and current impacts of

1 institutional and structural racism, as well as racial equity issues; and

2 (ii) reflect the geographic, racial, ethnic, cultural, and gender
3 diversity of the State.

4 (3) A member of the task force:

5 (i) may not receive compensation as a member of the task force; but

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

8 (4) The Institute for Urban Research at Morgan State University shall:

9 (i) select a chair from among the members of the task force; and

10 (ii) provide staff for the task force.

11 (5) The task force may establish subcommittees as necessary to fulfill its
12 duties.

13 (c) (1) The task force shall consult with the following units of State
14 government:

15 (i) the Commission on Civil Rights;

16 (ii) the Office of the Attorney General, Division of Civil Rights;

17 (iii) the Department of Human Services;

18 (iv) the Department of Housing and Community Development;

19 (v) the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation;

20 (vi) the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services;

21 (vii) the Department of Transportation; and

22 (viii) the State Department of Education.

23 (2) The task force may consult with any other unit of State or local
24 government as determined appropriate by the task force.

25 (3) On request of the task force, a unit of State government shall:

26 (i) provide information or staff support in a timely manner; or

1 (ii) designate a representative to:

2 1. serve as a member of the task force; or

3 2. attend a meeting or a hearing held by the task force.

4 (d) The task force shall:

5 (1) (i) hold hearings at various locations throughout the State and
6 receive testimony from individuals, units of State and local government, community-based
7 organizations, and other public and private organizations; and

8 (ii) invite representatives from stakeholder groups to testify at the
9 hearings;

10 (2) study:

11 (i) the nature of racism, sexism in the experience of racial
12 inequities, and institutional bias throughout the State;

13 (ii) manifestations of institutional and structural racism;

14 (iii) the impact of institutional and structural racism, including the
15 effects on health, employment and economic stability, access to safe and affordable housing,
16 income inequality, educational opportunities, and achievement gaps;

17 (iv) past and ongoing efforts to promote human rights and social and
18 inclusionary justice; and

19 (v) best practices throughout the United States regarding policies,
20 laws, and systems designed to eliminate institutional and structural racism and sexism
21 and foster repair for those impacted;

22 (3) identify criteria to be used in monitoring and evaluating the
23 implementation of the strategies and changes in institutions, policies, and laws
24 recommended by the task force;

25 (4) make recommendations regarding strategies, changes, and actions in
26 State institutions, policies, and laws to improve race relations, eliminate institutional and
27 structural racism and gender inequities, and support repair and justice, including
28 measures to:

29 (i) increase awareness of conscious and unconscious bias and
30 structural inequities and their consequences;

31 (ii) eliminate implicit and explicit institutional bias;

1 (iii) improve structural support of inclusionary justice, promote
2 repair that can lead to healing, and foster reconciliation between various groups; and

3 (iv) promote the overall health and success of individuals throughout
4 the State, including improving access to employment opportunities, safe and affordable
5 housing, adequate medical services and treatment, and a quality education; and

6 (5) using the criteria identified under item (3) of this subsection, monitor
7 and evaluate the implementation of the recommended strategies and changes in State
8 institutions, policies, and laws.

9 (e) A person, including an employer, may not retaliate against an individual for
10 giving testimony at a hearing held by the task force.

11 (f) (1) On or before January 31, 2019, the Institute for Urban Research at
12 Morgan State University shall submit a preliminary report on the activities of the task
13 force to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article,
14 the General Assembly.

15 (2) On or before January 31, [2020] **2021**, the Institute for Urban Research
16 at Morgan State University shall submit a full report on the activities, findings, and
17 recommendations of the task force to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the
18 State Government Article, the General Assembly.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
20 1, 2018. It shall remain effective for a period of [2] **3** years and, at the end of May 31, [2020]
21 **2021**, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated
22 and of no further force and effect.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2019.