

# SENATE BILL 1032

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By: **Senator Nathan–Pulliam**

Introduced and read first time: March 4, 2019

Assigned to: Rules

Re–referred to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs, March 11, 2019

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Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 22, 2019

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

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:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



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

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

6 (3) fostering racial equity through recognition, understanding, adjustment,  
7 compromise, and repair; and

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

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

13 (i) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the  
14 President of the Senate;

15 (ii) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker  
16 of the House;

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

19 (iv) one representative of the National Association for the  
20 Advancement of Colored People;

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

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

24 (vii) three representatives, one each from three different interfaith  
25 organizations;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4 (i) have expertise in the historical and current impacts of  
5 institutional and structural racism, as well as racial equity issues; and

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

8 (3) A member of the task force:

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

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

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

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

14 (ii) provide staff for the task force.

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

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

19 (i) the Commission on Civil Rights;

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

21 (iii) the Department of Human Services;

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

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

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

25 (vii) the Department of Transportation; and

26 (viii) the State Department of Education.

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

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

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

5           (ii) designate a representative to:

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

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

8           (d) The task force shall:

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

12                 (ii) invite representatives from stakeholder groups to testify at the  
13 hearings;

14           (2) study:

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

17                 (ii) manifestations of institutional and structural racism;

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

21                 (iv) past and ongoing efforts to promote human rights and social and  
22 inclusionary justice; and

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

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

29           (4) make recommendations regarding strategies, changes, and actions in  
30 State institutions, policies, and laws to improve race relations, eliminate institutional and  
31 structural racism and gender inequities, and support repair and justice, including

1 measures to:

2 (i) increase awareness of conscious and unconscious bias and  
3 structural inequities and their consequences;

4 (ii) eliminate implicit and explicit institutional bias;

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

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

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

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

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

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

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
24 1, 2018. It shall remain effective for a period of ~~[2]~~ **3** years and, at the end of May 31, ~~[2020]~~  
25 **2021**, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated  
26 and of no further force and effect.

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