

Chapter 705

(House Bill 923)

AN ACT concerning

Task Force to Study Transportation Access

FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Transportation Access; stating the purpose of the Task Force; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; authorizing the Task Force to establish subcommittees; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its interim and final findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; defining certain terms; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Transportation Access.

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

- (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (2) “MTA” means the Maryland Transit Administration.
- (3) “Task Force” means the Task Force to Study Transportation Access.
- (4) “WMATA” means the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.
- (b) There is a Task Force to Study Transportation Access.
- (c) The purpose of the Task Force is to study and make recommendations, for individuals and families in Maryland without access to public transportation or the ability to use personal motor vehicles, to improve access to:
 - (1) employment;
 - (2) training and education opportunities;
 - (3) health and rehabilitation services, including nonemergency medical services; and
 - (4) other social services.
- (d) The Task Force consists of the following members:

- (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;
- (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- (3) one representative of CASH Campaign of Maryland, selected by CASH Campaign of Maryland;
- (4) one representative of the Center for Mobility Equity, selected by the Center for Mobility Equity;
- (5) one representative of the Central Maryland Transportation Alliance, selected by the Central Maryland Transportation Alliance;
- (6) one representative of Delmarva Community Services, Inc., selected by Delmarva Community Services, Inc.;
- (7) one representative of the Job Opportunities Task Force, selected by the Job Opportunities Task Force;
- (8) one representative of Maryland Nonprofits, selected by Maryland Nonprofits;
- (9) one representative of the Maryland Rural Development Corporation, selected by the Maryland Rural Development Corporation;
- (10) one representative of Preservation Maryland who is involved with the Smart Growth Maryland Campaign, selected by Preservation Maryland;
- (11) one representative of The Arc Maryland, selected by The Arc Maryland;
- (12) one representative of the Transportation Association of Maryland, Inc., selected by the Transportation Association of Maryland, Inc.;
- (13) one representative of Vehicles for Change, selected by Vehicles for Change; ~~and~~
- (14) one representative of a privately operated ride-sharing service, appointed by the Secretary of Transportation; ~~and~~
- (15) one representative of the Greater Baltimore Committee, selected by the Greater Baltimore Committee;

(16) one representative of the Maryland Chamber of Commerce, selected by the Maryland Chamber of Commerce;

(17) one representative of the Greater Washington Board of Trade, selected by the Greater Washington Board of Trade; and

(18) the following ex officio members:

- (i) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee;
- (ii) the Secretary of Human Services, or the Secretary's designee;
- (iii) the Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's designee; and

(iv) one representative of the Governor's Workforce Development Board, appointed by the Governor.

(e) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall jointly select the chair of the Task Force.

(f) The Department of Transportation shall provide staff for the Task Force.

(g) The Task Force may establish subcommittees as necessary to fulfill its duties.

(h) A member or an ex officio member of the Task Force:

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

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

(i) The Task Force shall:

~~(1) review existing transportation needs assessments;~~

~~(2) reach out to public and private providers of health services, education services, training and workforce services, and social services for input and information;~~

~~(3) examine barriers to accessing transportation, including disparity in transportation access across zip codes;~~

~~(4) study transportation services currently available at the local, regional, and State level, including routes and schedules for MTA, WMATA, and locally operated transit systems in the State;~~

~~(5) review current transportation planning efforts and pilot projects, including alternative solutions being used by local service providers or employers;~~

~~(6) explore opportunities to expand services through coordination, collaboration, or the sharing of current transportation services or assets;~~

~~(7) review reports or studies of innovative or promising transit solutions in other states or regions for potential new approaches in Maryland;~~

~~(8) review and summarize findings of current and projected unmet transportation access needs across the State;~~

~~(9) make recommendations to optimize the use and coordination of existing transportation systems, services, and assets, including recommended extensions of existing routes or schedules for MTA, WMATA, locally operated transit systems, and private vehicle services; and~~

~~(10) make recommendations regarding the need for additional resources, planning, or systems to address current or projected needs.~~

(1) review information, findings, and recommendations from available recent and current human services transportation plans, pilot projects, and reports; and

(2) make and report findings and recommendations for policies or actions to improve transportation access in accordance with the purpose of the Task Force described under subsection (c) of this Act.

(j) (1) On or before June 30, 2020, the Task Force shall submit an interim report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

(2) On or before December 1, 2021, the Task Force shall submit a final report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2019. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of June 30, 2022, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 25, 2019.