

HOUSE BILL 301

E4
HB 1417/19 – JUD

0lr0394

By: **Delegates Proctor, Bagnall, Brooks, Carey, Conaway, Cullison, D.M. Davis, Fennell, W. Fisher, Guyton, Harrison, Healey, Hettleman, Kerr, Korman, R. Lewis, Love, Patterson, Rosenberg, and Valentino-Smith**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2020

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Task Force on Missing Persons**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on Missing Persons; providing for the
4 composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task
5 Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of
6 certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations
7 regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and
8 recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain
9 date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task
10 Force on Missing Persons.

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

13 (a) There is a Task Force on Missing Persons.

14 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

15 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
16 the Senate;

17 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the
18 House;

19 (3) the Secretary of State Police, or the Secretary's designee;

20 (4) the Attorney General of Maryland, or the Attorney General's designee;

21 (5) the Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary's designee;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (6) the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, or the
2 Secretary's designee; and

3 (7) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

4 (i) one representative of the Greater Maryland Chapter of the
5 Alzheimer's Association;

6 (ii) one representative of the Maryland Municipal League;

7 (iii) one representative of the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association
8 or the Maryland Sheriffs' Association; and

9 (iv) one member of the public who advocates on behalf of families of
10 missing persons.

11 (c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

12 (d) The State agencies represented on the Task Force shall provide staff for the
13 Task Force.

14 (e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

18 (f) The Task Force shall:

19 (1) study:

20 (i) best practices regarding conducting searches for missing
21 persons; and

22 (ii) details regarding the establishment of a State Coordinator for
23 Missing Persons who shall serve as a point of contact for loved ones of missing persons; and

24 (2) make recommendations regarding:

25 (i) any changes or improvements that should be made in the State's
26 systems for conducting searches for missing persons; and

27 (ii) the establishment of a State Coordinator for Missing Persons.

28 (g) On or before December 31, 2021, the Task Force shall report its findings and

1 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State
2 Government Article, the General Assembly.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
4 1, 2020. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2022,
5 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and
6 of no further force and effect.