AN ACT concerning

Task Force on Recycling Policy and Recycling and Waste Systems in Maryland

FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on Recycling Policy and Recycling and Waste Systems in Maryland to review the Maryland Recycling Act, study the recycling and waste systems in Maryland, and make recommendations on updating the Maryland Recycling Act and implementing regional recycling and waste disposal facilities; and generally relating to the Task Force on Recycling Policy and Recycling and Waste Systems in Maryland.

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

(a) There is a Task Force on Recycling Policy and Recycling and Waste Systems in Maryland.

(b) 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) the Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary’s designee; and

(4) the following members, appointed by the Secretary of the Environment:

(i) one representative of the Maryland Association of Counties;

(ii) one representative of each of the four largest counties, including Baltimore City;
(iii) four representatives of small counties that are geographically diverse;
(iv) one representative of the Maryland Municipal League;
(v) two representatives of municipalities;
(vi) one representative of the Maryland Recycling Network;
(vii) one representative of the Maryland Environmental Service;
(viii) one representative of the Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities;
(ix) one representative of the MD–DC Composting Committee of the U.S. Composting Council;
(x) one representative of the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority;
(xi) one representative of the Maryland Chapter of the National Waste and Recycling Association;
(xii) one representative of Trash Free Maryland;
(xiii) one representative of Environment Maryland; and
(xiv) one representative of the Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club.

(c) The Secretary of the Environment shall designate the chair of the Task Force.
(d) The Department of the Environment shall provide staff for the Task Force.
(e) A 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.

(f) The Task Force shall:

(1) review the Maryland Recycling Act;
(2) study the recycling and waste systems in Maryland; and
(3) make recommendations on:

   (i) updating the Maryland Recycling Act to focus on the recycling and diversion of materials to help achieve the State’s recycling and greenhouse gas reduction goals; and

   (ii) the feasibility of implementing regional recycling and waste disposal facilities, including:

         1. the locations of possible facility sites, including the potential for reuse of abandoned facilities within the State;

         2. cost-sharing opportunities;

         3. developing service networks; and

         4. advancing principles of zero waste.

(g) On or before June 30, 2023, the Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Environment and Transportation Committee, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2022. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 6 months and, at the end of December 31, 2023, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.