

# HOUSE BILL 984

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HB 41/21 – ECM

2lr2039

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By: **Delegate Smith**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2022

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland State Bank Task Force – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland State Bank Task Force to review and  
4 evaluate the creation of a Maryland State Bank; and generally relating to the  
5 creation of the Maryland State Bank Task Force.

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

7 That:

8 (a) There is a Maryland State Bank Task Force.

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

10 (1) a chair, appointed by the Governor;

11 (2) one member of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, appointed  
12 by the President of the Senate;

13 (3) one member of the House Appropriations Committee, appointed by the  
14 Speaker of the House;

15 (4) the State Treasurer, or the State Treasurer's designee;

16 (5) the Comptroller of Maryland, or the Comptroller's designee;

17 (6) the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary's designee;

18 (7) the Commissioner of Financial Regulation, or the Commissioner's  
19 designee;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (8) the Director of the Office of Finance Programs, or the Director's  
2 designee;

3 (9) the Director of the Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based  
4 Industry Development Corporation, or the Director's designee;

5 (10) the Director of the Maryland Small Business Development Financing  
6 Authority, or the Director's designee;

7 (11) the President of the Maryland and District of Columbia Credit Union  
8 Association (MDDCCUA), or the President's designee; and

9 (12) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

10 (i) a representative of the labor community;

11 (ii) a representative of an academic and research economic policy  
12 institution; and

13 (iii) three members of the public knowledgeable about the State's  
14 banking sector, finance, and economic development, of which at least one is a member of  
15 the community banking community and one is a member of the consumer advocacy  
16 community.

17 (c) The Office of the Commissioner of Financial Regulation shall provide staff  
18 support to the Task Force.

19 (d) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

23 (e) (1) The Task Force shall review and evaluate the creation of a Maryland  
24 State Bank.

25 (2) The Task Force shall, at a minimum, undertake a review and  
26 evaluation of a State Bank that would:

27 (i) support the economic development of the State by increasing  
28 access to capital for businesses and farms within the State in partnership with local  
29 financial institutions;

30 (ii) provide stability to the local financial sector without entering  
31 into competition with community banks, credit unions, or other financial institutions;

1 (iii) reduce the costs paid by the State for basic banking services; and

2 (iv) return profits, beyond those necessary to accomplish the mission  
3 and sound operations of the State Bank, to the General Fund of the State.

4 (f) In undertaking the duties imposed under subsection (e) of this section, the  
5 Task Force shall:

6 (1) perform a general assessment of the State's current network of public  
7 and private financial resources for the purpose of identifying potential areas of State Bank  
8 focus, including how a State Bank may:

9 (i) strengthen the economic and community development needs of  
10 Maryland;

11 (ii) provide greater financial stability through its investments in  
12 other financial institutions;

13 (iii) reduce the cost paid by State government for banking services;  
14 and

15 (iv) generate earnings beyond those necessary for the continued  
16 operation of the trust, which could be used to supplement the General Fund of the State;

17 (2) examine how a State Bank may support a strong private sector  
18 financial community that would provide capital for businesses in Maryland;

19 (3) examine various administrative and operational structures for  
20 organizing a State Bank, including boards of directors, sources of deposits, oversight and  
21 audit of financial activities, and guarantees of financial products;

22 (4) consider options for integrating a State Bank model into the existing  
23 State financial services network, including ideas such as lending capital to banks, credit  
24 unions, and nonprofit community development financial institutions; and

25 (5) examine the long-term impact of creating a State Bank on economic  
26 growth, job creation, and State revenues.

27 (g) On or before December 1, 2022, the Task Force shall report its findings and  
28 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State  
29 Government Article, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House  
30 Appropriations Committee.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
32 1, 2022. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June  
33 30, 2023, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be  
34 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

