

# SENATE BILL 782

C8  
SB 896/21 – FIN & B&T

2lr2569

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By: **Senators Hester and Rosapepe**  
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2022  
Assigned to: Finance and Budget and Taxation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Workgroup on the Post–COVID–19 Crisis Economic Transition**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Workgroup on the Post–COVID–19 Crisis Economic  
4 Transition; and generally relating to the COVID–19 economic crisis.

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

7 (a) There is a Workgroup on the Post–COVID–19 Crisis Economic Transition.

8 (b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:

9 (1) four members of the Senate of Maryland, including members from the  
10 Budget and Taxation Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Education, Health, and  
11 Environmental Affairs Committee, appointed by the President of the Senate;

12 (2) four members of the House of Delegates, including members from the  
13 Appropriations Committee, the Committee on Ways and Means, the Economic Matters  
14 Committee, the Health and Government Operations Committee, and the Environment and  
15 Transportation Committee, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

16 (3) five members of the business sector, including representatives from the  
17 health care industry, cybersecurity industry, restaurant industry, childcare industry, and  
18 a multi–industry organization appointed by the Governor;

19 (4) one member of the State nonprofit sector appointed by the Governor;

20 (5) the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary’s designee;

21 (6) the Secretary of Labor, or the Secretary’s designee;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (7) the Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's designee; and

2 (8) the Secretary of Housing and Community Development, or the  
3 Secretary's designee.

4 (c) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall each appoint  
5 one of their members as cochair of the Workgroup.

6 (d) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff for the Workgroup.

7 (e) The Workgroup:

8 (1) may retain the services of the University of Maryland; and

9 (2) shall be appropriated \$500,000 for that purpose.

10 (f) A member of the Workgroup:

11 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Workgroup; but

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

14 (g) The Workgroup shall make recommendations regarding how the State may  
15 adjust its economic development and other strategies in the context of changes resulting  
16 from crises in sectors including:

17 (1) telehealth;

18 (2) telework;

19 (3) online education, from kindergarten to graduate programs;

20 (4) childcare;

21 (5) job creation acceleration;

22 (6) unemployment compensation;

23 (7) underemployment;

24 (8) small businesses and entrepreneurship;

25 (9) tax system modernization;

26 (10) changes in real estate such as office space, retail, residential, rental and  
27 ownership, and community economic centers;

1 (11) supply chain management;

2 (12) small businesses that are not associated with a chain store, commonly  
3 referred to as “main street businesses”;

4 (13) rebuilding the public health system; and

5 (14) other impacts on public services.

6 (h) On or before December 1, 2022, the Workgroup shall submit an interim report  
7 of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with §  
8 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

9 (i) On or before December 1, 2023, the Workgroup shall submit a final report of  
10 its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the  
11 State Government Article, the General Assembly.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
13 1, 2022. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2024,  
14 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and  
15 of no further force and effect.