

HOUSE BILL 1450

Q8

4lr1695
CF 4lr3242

By: **Howard County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2024

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Howard County Task Force to Study Revenue Options for School Capital Needs**

3 **Ho. Co. 18–24**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Howard County Task Force to Study Revenue Options
5 for School Capital Needs to identify capital needs of Howard County Public Schools
6 and study options for closing any identified funding gaps; requiring the Howard
7 County Council to submit a resolution to the Howard County Delegation if the
8 Howard County Council determines a recommendation from the Task Force should
9 be enacted but the Council lacks the authority to enact the recommendation; and
10 generally relating to a Howard County Task Force to Study Revenue Options for
11 School Capital Needs.

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

14 (a) There is a Howard County Task Force to Study Revenue Options for School
15 Capital Needs.

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

17 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the Chair of the
18 Howard County Senate Delegation;

19 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Chair of the
20 Howard County House Delegation;

21 (3) the Howard County Executive, or the County Executive's designee;

22 (4) two members of the Howard County Council, appointed by the Howard
23 County Council;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (5) two members of the Howard County Board of Education, appointed by
2 the Howard County Board of Education;

3 (6) the Howard County Public School System Superintendent, or the
4 Superintendent's designee;

5 (7) one member of the Howard County PTA Council, appointed by the
6 Council;

7 (8) two residents of Howard County, appointed by the Howard County
8 Council;

9 (9) one voting member of the Howard County Spending Affordability
10 Advisory Committee, appointed by the Howard County Executive;

11 (10) one voting member of the Howard County Spending Affordability
12 Advisory Committee, appointed by the Howard County Council;

13 (11) the Howard County Director of Finance, or the Director's designee;

14 (12) the Howard County Budget Director, or the Director's designee;

15 (13) the Chair of the Howard County Agricultural Preservation Board, or
16 the Chair's designee;

17 (14) the President of the Howard County Farm Bureau, or the President's
18 designee;

19 (15) the Chief of the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue
20 Services, or the Chief's designee;

21 (16) the President of IAFF 2000, or the President's designee;

22 (17) the Director of the Howard County Department of Housing and
23 Community Development, or the Director's designee;

24 (18) the Chair of the Howard County Housing and Community
25 Development Board, or the Chair's designee;

26 (19) the Director of the Howard County Department of Recreation and
27 Parks, or the Director's designee; and

28 (20) the Chair of the Howard County Recreation and Parks Advisory Board,
29 or the Chair's designee.

30 (c) The County Executive shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

1 (d) The County Executive shall provide staff for the Task Force.

2 (e) A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation as a member of the
3 Task Force.

4 (f) In consultation with Howard County Public Schools, the Howard County
5 Department of Finance, and the Howard County Budget Office, the Task Force shall:

6 (1) identify the capital needs, including deferred maintenance, of Howard
7 County Public Schools through 2035;

8 (2) determine the projected funding expected to be allocated to Howard
9 County Public Schools capital projects through 2035;

10 (3) identify the anticipated funding gaps for Howard County Public Schools
11 capital projections under current revenue projections through 2035; and

12 (4) study options for closing any identified funding gaps for Howard County
13 Public Schools capital projects under current revenue projections through 2035, including:

14 (i) allocating a higher percentage of revenue from the transfer tax
15 to Howard County Public Schools capital projects;

16 (ii) enacting a commercial excise tax;

17 (iii) exercising existing authority the County may use to generate
18 additional revenue; and

19 (iv) studying any other potential revenue sources the Task Force
20 determines appropriate.

21 (g) On or before December 1, 2025, the Task Force shall report its findings and
22 recommendations to the Howard County members of the House of Delegates and the Senate
23 in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article.

24 (h) If the Howard County Council determines a recommendation included in the
25 report submitted under subsection (g) of this section should be enacted but the Council or
26 County lack the authority to enact the recommendation, the Howard County Council shall
27 submit a resolution requesting the Howard County Delegation to the General Assembly
28 authorize the Howard County Council to enact the specified recommendation.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
30 1, 2024. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June
31 30, 2025, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
32 abrogated and of no further force and effect.