

HOUSE BILL 1413

C8

6lr3246

By: **Delegate Hornberger**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2026

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Department of Planning – District of Columbia Retrocession – Study**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Planning, in consultation with
4 certain agencies and stakeholders, to study the feasibility and potential economic
5 impacts of the retrocession of the District of Columbia to the State of Maryland,
6 excluding the federal enclave of the National Capital Service Area; and generally
7 relating to a study on the retrocession of the District of Columbia.

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

10 (a) The Maryland Department of Planning shall study and make
11 recommendations on the potential economic and fiscal impacts of the retrocession of the
12 District of Columbia to the State of Maryland.

13 (b) The study shall exclude the federal enclave of the National Capital Service
14 Area, which includes the U.S. Capitol, the White House, the U.S. Supreme Court, and
15 principal federal executive departments.

16 (c) In conducting the study required under subsection (a) of this section, the
17 Department shall:

18 (1) estimate the impact on State income, sales, and corporate tax and any
19 other revenues resulting from the addition of District residents and businesses to the State;

20 (2) evaluate the cost and logistics of assuming responsibility for:

21 (i) the maintenance and operation of the District's transportation
22 infrastructure and public transit systems;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) the administration and funding of the District's public school
2 system; and

3 (iii) the provision of public safety and emergency services;

4 (3) assess the impact of assuming or restructuring the District's municipal
5 debt, pension obligations, and other long-term liabilities;

6 (4) analyze the impact on the State's labor market, housing costs, and
7 overall gross State product;

8 (5) identify potential barriers to integrating the District's laws,
9 professional licenses, and regulatory requirements into the Annotated Code of Maryland;
10 and

11 (6) identify necessary modifications to the Maryland Constitution or the
12 Maryland Charter for any impacted counties.

13 (d) In conducting the study, the Department shall consult with the following
14 stakeholders:

15 (1) the Comptroller of Maryland;

16 (2) the Maryland Department of Budget and Management;

17 (3) the Office of the Attorney General;

18 (4) representatives from the District of Columbia government;

19 (5) representatives from Montgomery County and Prince George's County;

20 (6) constitutional and legislative policy experts; and

21 (7) any other stakeholders the Department considers appropriate.

22 (e) On or before December 1, 2026, the Maryland Department of Planning shall
23 submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Senate Budget and Taxation
24 Committee and the House Appropriations Committee in accordance with § 2-1257 of the
25 State Government Article.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
27 1, 2026.