

SENATE BILL 376

I1, S2

6lr1797
CF HB 470

By: **Senator Watson**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2026

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 25, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Digital Asset and Blockchain Technology Task Force – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Digital Asset and Blockchain Technology Task Force
4 to study and make recommendations regarding the use and regulation of blockchain
5 technology and cryptocurrency in the State; and generally relating to the Digital
6 Asset and Blockchain Technology Task Force.

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

9 (a) There is a Digital Asset and Blockchain Technology Task Force.

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

11 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
12 the Senate;

13 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
14 the House;

15 (3) the Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee;

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

17 ~~(4)~~ (5) the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary's designee;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (6) the Secretary of Information Technology, or the Secretary's designee;

2 ~~(5)~~ (7) the Secretary of Labor, or the Secretary's designee; ~~and~~

3 (8) the Securities Commissioner, or the Commissioner's designee; and

4 ~~(6)~~ (9) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

5 (i) ~~one representative~~ two representatives of the financial services
6 industry;

7 (ii) one faculty member of an institution of higher education in the
8 State who specializes in economics; and

9 (iii) two representatives of the Maryland Blockchain Association.

10 (c) The members of the Task Force shall elect the chair of the Task Force.

11 (d) The Office of Financial Regulation in the Maryland Department of Labor shall
12 provide staff for the Task Force.

13 (e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

17 (f) The Task Force shall:

18 (1) conduct an analysis of the expansion of blockchain technology and
19 cryptocurrency in the State that includes:

20 (i) a discussion of the overall concepts of blockchain technology and
21 cryptocurrency in the State;

22 (ii) an examination of the associated risks, including privacy risks,
23 and the benefits of using blockchain technology and cryptocurrency in State and local
24 government and in private businesses in the State;

25 (iii) an assessment of the impact of the cryptocurrency industry on
26 the State, including its effect on State revenues and energy consumption; and

27 (iv) any other topic, as determined by the Task Force, related to
28 blockchain technology or cryptocurrency; and

1 (2) make recommendations regarding the use and regulation of blockchain
2 technology and cryptocurrency in the State.

3 (g) On or before October 1, 2027, the Task Force shall report its findings and
4 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State
5 Government Article, the General Assembly, the Senate Finance Committee, and the House
6 Economic Matters Committee.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
8 1, 2026. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2028,
9 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and
10 of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.