



SB0962/903328/1

AMENDMENTS  
PREPARED  
BY THE  
DEPT. OF LEGISLATIVE  
SERVICES

06 MAR 24  
15:39:50

BY: Senator Ready  
(To be offered in the Judicial Proceedings Committee)

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 962  
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike line 2 in its entirety and substitute “**Task Force to Study Property Fraud Prevention**”; strike beginning with “requiring” in line 3 down through “reports” in line 6 and substitute “establishing the Task Force to Study Property Fraud Prevention; and generally relating to a task force to study property fraud prevention”; and strike in their entirety lines 7 through 26, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 2, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”.

On pages 2 and 3, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 3 on page 2 through line 8 on page 3, inclusive, and substitute:

- “(a) There is a Task Force to Study Property Fraud Prevention.
- (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:
- (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;
  - (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
  - (3) the Executive Director of the Maryland Real Estate Commission, or the Executive Director's designee;

(4) the Chair of the Conference of Circuit Court Clerks, or the Chair's designee; and

(5) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

(i) one representative of the Maryland Building Industry Association;

(ii) one representative of the Maryland Association of Realtors;

(iii) one representative of the Maryland Land Title Association;

(iv) one representative from the Maryland Bankers Association;  
and

(v) one representative of NAIOP, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association.

(c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

(d) The Maryland Real Estate Commission shall provide staff for the Task Force.

(e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

(f) The Task Force shall:

(1) conduct a survey to determine the availability of information related to property fraud and property fraud prevention;

(2) conduct a survey of property fraud prevention programs or systems offered by:

(i) local governments in the State; and

(ii) other states and local governments in other states;

(3) evaluate:

(i) the nature and extent of property fraud;

(ii) whether there has been an increase in property fraud in recent years; and

(iii) the effectiveness of prevention programs and systems offered by:

1. local governments in the State; and

2. other states and local governments in other states; and

(4) develop recommendations on property fraud prevention programs or systems that could be offered by the State.

(g) (1) On or before December 1, 2024, the Task Force shall report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly its findings and recommendations, including:

(i) a list of sources reviewed and experts consulted;

(Over)

- (ii) findings on the current nature and extent of property fraud;
- (iii) actions, interventions, and policies that could reduce property fraud; and
- (iv) recommended legislation to be introduced for the 2025 legislative session.

(2) On or before December 1, 2025, the Task Force shall report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly its findings and recommendations, including:

- (i) a list of sources reviewed and experts consulted;
- (ii) findings on the current nature and extent of property fraud;
- (iii) actions, interventions, and policies that could reduce property fraud; and
- (iv) recommended legislation to be introduced for the 2026 legislative session.”;

in line 10, strike “October” and substitute “July”; and in the same line, after the period insert “It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2026, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.