

# HOUSE BILL 944

B1

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CF SB 420

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By: **Delegate Heller**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2007

Assigned to: Appropriations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Needs and Expenditures of State Programs**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study the Needs and Expenditures  
4 of State Programs; establishing the membership and staff of the Task Force;  
5 requiring the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House to designate  
6 the chair of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to examine and make  
7 findings and recommendations on certain issues related to the needs and  
8 expenditures of State programs; requiring the Task Force to submit certain  
9 reports by certain dates; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally  
10 relating to the Task Force to Study the Needs and Expenditures of State  
11 Programs.

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

14 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Needs and Expenditures of State  
15 Programs.

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

17 (1) four members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the  
18 President of the Senate;

19 (2) four members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker  
20 of the House;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1                   (3)     four representatives of executive branch agencies, appointed by the  
2 Governor; and

3                   (4)     six members of the public, including at least three representatives  
4 of nonprofit service providers, jointly appointed by the President of the Senate and the  
5 Speaker of the House.

6           (c)     The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall jointly  
7 designate the chair of the Task Force.

8           (d)     The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff for the Task  
9 Force.

10          (e)     A member of the Task Force:

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

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

14          (f)     The Task Force shall:

15                   (1)     examine patterns of funding and provision of services for State  
16 programs since fiscal year 2001; and

17                   (2)     make findings and recommendations for future staffing and  
18 program funding requirements of all agencies supported by State general funds, based  
19 on requirements to meet current or estimated future needs or demands for services.

20          (g)     In making its findings and recommendations, the Task Force shall  
21 consider:

22                   (1)     (i)     funding requirements for programs for individuals with  
23 special needs, including individuals who are poor, homeless, abused, mentally ill,  
24 developmentally disabled, juveniles, or elderly;

25                                 (ii)    demographics and needs related to income support, medical  
26 support, housing, nutrition, training, or other services;

27                   (2)     (i)     funding requirements for higher education, including public  
28 institutions, private institutions, and financial aid;

1 (ii) the demographics and missions of the higher education  
2 institutions;

3 (3) (i) public safety, including police, administration of justice,  
4 corrections, parole, and probation;

5 (ii) demographics and the costs of alternative programs;

6 (4) funding requirements for debt service on State general obligation  
7 bonds;

8 (5) funding requirements and needs for environmental programs,  
9 including the role of special funds;

10 (6) funding requirements for economic development programs,  
11 including the role of special funds and tax expenditures;

12 (7) funding requirements for other agencies funded with State general  
13 funds; and

14 (8) funding requirements for the revenue stabilization account.

15 (h) The Task Force shall submit to the Governor and, in accordance with §  
16 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly:

17 (1) an interim report of its findings and recommendations on or before  
18 December 1, 2007; and

19 (2) a final report of its findings and recommendations on or before  
20 December 1, 2008.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
22 July 1, 2007. It shall remain effective for a period of two years and, at the end of June  
23 30, 2009, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.