

HOUSE BILL 1161

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By: **Delegate Hubbard**

Introduced and read first time: February 19, 2007

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Funding Acute Inpatient Mental Health Services**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on Funding Acute Inpatient Mental
4 Health Services; providing for the membership of the Task Force; requiring the
5 Governor to designate the chair of the Task Force; requiring the Department of
6 Health and Mental Hygiene to staff the Task Force; providing that a member of
7 the Task Force may not receive compensation but is entitled to a certain
8 reimbursement; requiring the Task Force to establish a certain plan, identify
9 certain incentives, and make certain recommendations; requiring the Task
10 Force to make a certain report to the Governor and General Assembly on or
11 before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally
12 relating to the Task Force on Funding Acute Inpatient Mental Health Services.

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

15 (a) There is a Task Force on Funding Acute Inpatient Mental Health
16 Services.

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

18 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President
19 of the Senate;

20 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
21 the House;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (3) the Executive Director of the Mental Hygiene Administration, or
2 the Executive Director's designee;

3 (4) the Director of the Office of Health Care Quality, or the Director's
4 designee;

5 (5) the Executive Director of the Maryland Health Care Commission,
6 or the Executive Director's designee;

7 (6) the Executive Director of the Health Services Cost Review
8 Commission, or the Executive Director's designee;

9 (7) the following representatives, appointed by the Governor:

10 (i) one representative from the Maryland Hospital Association
11 who represents an acute-care general hospital;

12 (ii) one representative from the Maryland Hospital Association
13 who represents a private psychiatric facility;

14 (iii) one representative from the Mental Health Association of
15 Maryland;

16 (iv) one representative from the National Alliance for the
17 Mentally Ill;

18 (v) one representative from the Maryland Psychiatric Society;

19 (vi) one representative from a core service agency;

20 (vii) one representative from the Community Behavioral Health
21 Association of Maryland; and

22 (viii) one representative from the Maryland Disability Law
23 Center.

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

25 (d) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall provide staff for the
26 Task Force.

27 (e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

4 (f) The Task Force shall:

5 (1) establish a plan to transfer acute inpatient mental health services
6 from the public sector to the private sector;

7 (2) identify incentives to encourage acute-care general hospitals and
8 private psychiatric facilities to provide acute inpatient mental health services; and

9 (3) make legislative and other recommendations regarding the
10 transfer of acute inpatient mental health services from the public sector to the private
11 sector, including recommendations for funding the transition.

12 (g) On or before December 30, 2007, the Task Force shall report its findings
13 and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
14 Government Article, the General Assembly.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
16 June 1, 2007. It shall remain effective for a period of 7 months and, at the end of
17 December 30, 2007, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act
18 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.