

CHAPTER 246

(House Bill 636)

AN ACT concerning

Prince George's County – Task Force to Improve Child Support Compliance

PG 426-07

FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Improve Child Support Compliance in Prince George's County; establishing the membership and staffing of the Task Force; requiring the members of the Task Force to designate the chair of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to develop a plan and draft legislation to improve child support compliance in Prince George's County among certain noncustodial parents; requiring the Task Force to consider methods to increase paternity establishment and court order establishment and the option of privatization of child support enforcement; requiring the Task Force to submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly regarding its findings and recommendations by a certain date; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing a member of the Task Force to receive certain reimbursements; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Improve Child Support Compliance in Prince George's County.

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

(a) There is a Task Force to Improve Child Support Compliance in Prince George's County.

(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 Prince George's County Executive, or the County Executive's designee;

(4) One member of the Prince George's County Council, appointed by the Prince George's County Council;

(5) The Director of the Prince George's County Office of Child Support Enforcement, or the Director's designee;

(6) The Director of the Prince George's County Department of Social Services, or the Director's designee;

(7) ~~The Coordinating Judge of the Prince George's County Circuit Court Family Division, or the Coordinating Judge's designee;~~ Chief Administrative Judge for the Seventh Circuit, or the Chief Administrative Judge's designee;

(8) One representative of the Child Support Enforcement Unit of the Prince George's County Office of the Sheriff, appointed by the Sheriff of Prince George's County; ~~and~~

(9) Two parents with an interest in improved child support compliance in Prince George's County, appointed by the Governor; and

(10) ~~One representative of a private provider that performs child support enforcement administration in the State, appointed by the Governor; and~~

~~(11)~~ The Executive Director of the Child Support Enforcement Administration of the Department of Human Resources, or the Executive Director's designee.

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

(d) ~~The Prince George's County Office of Child Support Enforcement~~ Child Support Enforcement Administration of the Department of Human Resources shall provide staff for the Task Force.

(e) A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation for serving on the Task Force, but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(f) The Task Force shall develop a plan and draft legislation to improve child support compliance in Prince George's County among noncustodial parents who:

- (1) are more than \$10,000 in arrears in child support payments; and
- (2) have failed to make a child support payment for 12 or more consecutive or nonconsecutive months.

(g) The Task Force shall consider:

- (1) methods to increase paternity establishment and court order establishment; and
- (2) the option of privatization of child support enforcement services to improve child support compliance in Prince George's County.

~~(g)~~ (h) On or before July 1, 2008, the Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2007. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of July 31, 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, April 24, 2007.