

CHAPTER 239

(Senate Bill 920)

AN ACT concerning

Task Force to Study Statewide Gypsy Moth Infestation

FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study Statewide Gypsy Moth Infestation; providing for the membership of the Task Force; providing that the Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force; providing for the staffing of the Task Force; providing that the members of the Task Force may not receive compensation but are entitled to a certain reimbursement; providing for the duties of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report certain findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Statewide Gypsy Moth Infestation.

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

- (a) There is a Task Force to Study Statewide Gypsy Moth Infestation.
- (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:
 - (1) ~~two members~~ one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;
 - (2) ~~two members~~ one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
 - (3) one representative of the Department of Natural Resources Forest Service, appointed by the Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary's designee;
 - (4) one representative of the Department of Agriculture, appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee;
 - (5) one representative from the Department of Budget and Management, appointed by the Governor;
 - (6) one representative from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, designated by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation;
 - (7) one representative from the Maryland Association of Counties, designated by the Maryland Association of Counties; ~~and~~

(8) one representative from the Maryland Forests Association, designated by the Maryland Forests Association;

(9) one representative from the Maryland Arborist Association, designated by the Maryland Arborist Association;

(10) one representative from the Maryland Pesticide Network with medical credentials and expertise on the impact of pesticides on public health and the environment, designated by the Maryland Pesticide Network; and

(11) one representative from municipal government, designated by the Maryland Municipal League.

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

(d) The State agencies represented on the Task Force 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) study the statewide infestation of gypsy moths; and

(2) make recommendations regarding the most effective practical, regulatory, and legislative means of combating the statewide infestation of gypsy moths.

(g) On or before August 31, 2009, 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 October 1, 2008. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of September 30, 2009, 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, 2008.