

# HOUSE BILL 1153

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By: **Delegates B. Robinson, Conaway, Haynes, and Walker**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2013

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Need for Recess in Maryland Public Schools**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study the Need for Recess in  
4 Maryland Public Schools; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of  
5 the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain  
6 compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses;  
7 requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding certain  
8 matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to  
9 the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing  
10 for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to  
11 Study the Need for Recess in Maryland Public Schools.

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

14 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Need for Recess in Maryland Public  
15 Schools.

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

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

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

21 (3) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the Superintendent's  
22 designee;

23 (4) one member appointed by the Maryland Association of Boards of  
24 Education;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1                   (5) one member appointed by the Public School Superintendents  
2 Association of Maryland;

3                   (6) one member appointed by the Maryland Parent Teacher Association;  
4 and

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

6                   (i) one representative who is knowledgeable in curriculum; and

7                   (ii) one representative who is knowledgeable in physical fitness.

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

9                   (d) The State Department of Education shall provide staff for the Task 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 study and make recommendations regarding the  
15 need for recess in all grade levels from kindergarten through high school, including:

16                   (1) the health benefits of recess;

17                   (2) the academic benefits of recess;

18                   (3) any other effects of recess on students, teachers, and other school  
19 employees; and

20                   (4) the appropriate amount of time that should be provided for recess  
21 each school day.

22                  (g) On or before December 31, 2013, the Task Force shall report its findings  
23 and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the State  
24 Government Article, the General Assembly.

25                  SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 July 1, 2013. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30,  
27 2014, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be  
28 abrogated and of no further force and effect.