

HOUSE BILL 1502

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7lr3036

By: **Delegates Gutierrez, Angel, Atterbeary, Barkley, B. Barnes, Barron, Beitzel, Carr, Chang, Clippinger, Cullison, Fraser-Hidalgo, Frush, Gaines, Gilchrist, Glenn, Hill, C. Howard, Jackson, Jalisi, Jones, Kelly, Korman, Kramer, Krimm, Lam, Lierman, Luedtke, McIntosh, McKay, Moon, Morales, Morhaim, Pena-Melnyk, Platt, Queen, Robinson, Sanchez, Sophocleus, Tarlau, Turner, Valderrama, Valentino-Smith, Waldstreicher, A. Washington, M. Washington, Wilkins, K. Young, and P. Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2017

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Expand Dual Language Programs in Maryland**

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

12 Preamble

13 WHEREAS, The Maryland State Department of Education has convened a task force
14 on English language learners; and

15 WHEREAS, Dual language programs promote biliteracy and bilingualism,
16 grade-level academic achievement, and cross-cultural competence in students; and

17 WHEREAS, Dual language learners gain proficiency in two languages
18 simultaneously; and

19 WHEREAS, Research has shown that dual language immersion programs increase
20 the academic performance of English language learners as well as other participants; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 WHEREAS, There are economic and social benefits of a multilingual citizenry; and

2 WHEREAS, As the number of bilingual students entering many of our schools in
3 Maryland continues to grow, a number of local education agencies are expanding current
4 language immersion models into schoolwide dual language education programs beginning
5 in early elementary level; now, therefore,

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

8 (a) There is a Task Force to Expand Dual Language Programs in Maryland.

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

10 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
11 the Senate;

12 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the
13 House;

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

15 (4) one representative of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education,
16 appointed by the Executive Director of the Association;

17 (5) one representative of the Public School Superintendents Association of
18 Maryland, appointed by the Executive Director of the Association;

19 (6) one representative of the Maryland State Education Association,
20 appointed by the Executive Director of the Association;

21 (7) one representative from the Maryland Foreign Language Association,
22 appointed by the President of the Association;

23 (8) one representative of Maryland Teachers of English to Speakers of
24 Other Languages (TESOL), appointed by the President of the association;

25 (9) one representative from a Maryland university with approved
26 certification programs in foreign language or ESOL;

27 (10) the following members, appointed by the State Superintendent:

28 (i) one world language supervisor from a local school system;

29 (ii) one ESOL supervisor from a local school system;

1 (iii) one dual language teacher; and

2 (iv) one principal from a dual language school; and

3 (11) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

4 (i) one representative of a local school system; and

5 (ii) one bilingual representative of the education community.

6 (c) The chair of the Task Force shall be selected by a majority vote of the members
7 of the Task Force.

8 (d) The State Department of Education shall provide staff for the Task Force.

9 (e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

13 (f) The Task Force shall:

14 (1) create a framework for dual language immersion programs in Maryland
15 that includes:

16 (i) recommended certification criteria for dual language teachers in
17 Maryland;

18 (ii) guidelines for the implementation of dual language immersion
19 programs in public schools, including class size, ratio of instruction in English to instruction
20 in partner language, instruction models, and other relevant criteria; and

21 (iii) recommended ongoing professional development for immersion
22 teachers;

23 (2) recommend strategies to increase the number of dual language
24 programs in the State; and

25 (3) identify potential funding sources.

26 (g) On or before October 1, 2017, the Task Force shall report its recommendations
27 on the certification criteria for dual language teachers in the State to the Governor and, in
28 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Education,
29 Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Appropriations Committee.

1 (h) On or before October 1, 2018, the Task Force shall report its recommendations
2 with regard to all aspects of the implementation of dual language immersion programs in
3 Maryland to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government
4 Article, to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the
5 House Appropriations Committee.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
7 1, 2017. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 1 month and, at the end of June
8 30, 2019, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
9 abrogated and of no further force and effect.