

HOUSE BILL 538

R7

4lr0448

By: **Delegates Beidle, Healey, Holmes, and Niemann**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2014

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Issues Related to the Use of Self-Driving Vehicles**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Issues Related to the Use of
4 Self-Driving Vehicles; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the
5 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 make certain determinations, review certain
8 information, consider certain issues, and make certain recommendations related
9 to the use of self-driving vehicles; requiring the Task Force to report its
10 findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or
11 before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally
12 relating to the Task Force to Study Issues Related to the Use of Self-Driving
13 Vehicles.

14 BY adding to
15 Article – Transportation
16 Section 2-404
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
20 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article – Transportation**

22 **2-404.**

23 **(A) THERE IS A TASK FORCE TO STUDY ISSUES RELATED TO THE USE**
24 **OF SELF-DRIVING VEHICLES.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

2 **(1) ONE MEMBER OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND, APPOINTED BY**
3 **THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;**

4 **(2) ONE MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY**
5 **THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;**

6 **(3) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MARYLAND, OR THE ATTORNEY**
7 **GENERAL'S DESIGNEE;**

8 **(4) THE FOLLOWING THREE MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE**
9 **SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION:**

10 **(I) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE**
11 **ADMINISTRATION;**

12 **(II) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE HIGHWAY**
13 **ADMINISTRATION; AND**

14 **(III) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND**
15 **TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY;**

16 **(5) THE SECRETARY OF STATE POLICE, OR THE SECRETARY'S**
17 **DESIGNEE; AND**

18 **(6) THE FOLLOWING FOUR MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE**
19 **GOVERNOR:**

20 **(I) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE**
21 **INSURANCE INDUSTRY;**

22 **(II) A REPRESENTATIVE OF AAA MID-ATLANTIC;**

23 **(III) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND CHIEFS OF**
24 **POLICE ASSOCIATION; AND**

25 **(IV) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ALLIANCE OF**
26 **AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURERS.**

27 **(C) THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE THE CHAIR OF THE TASK**
28 **FORCE.**

1 **(D) THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SHALL PROVIDE STAFF**
2 **FOR THE TASK FORCE.**

3 **(E) A MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE:**

4 **(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE**
5 **TASK FORCE; BUT**

6 **(2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE**
7 **STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE**
8 **BUDGET.**

9 **(F) THE TASK FORCE SHALL:**

10 **(1) DETERMINE THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND APPROPRIATE BEST**
11 **PRACTICES FOR GOVERNING SELF-DRIVING VEHICLES BASED ON A REVIEW OF:**

12 **(I) THE LAWS OF OTHER STATES GOVERNING**
13 **SELF-DRIVING VEHICLES;**

14 **(II) ANY RESEARCH, ANALYSIS, OR GUIDANCE PROVIDED BY**
15 **THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION; AND**

16 **(III) ANY OTHER SOURCE OF RESEARCH OR ANALYSIS**
17 **ADDRESSING THE GOVERNANCE OF SELF-DRIVING VEHICLES;**

18 **(2) REVIEW STATE LAW GOVERNING THE RULES OF THE ROAD,**
19 **INCLUDING LAWS GOVERNING SPEED RESTRICTIONS, DISTRACTED DRIVING,**
20 **AND DRUNK DRIVING, TO DETERMINE IF THAT AREA OF STATE LAW WOULD**
21 **NEED TO BE UPDATED TO ACCOMMODATE SELF-DRIVING VEHICLES; AND**

22 **(3) CONSIDER AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON:**

23 **(I) ISSUES RELATED TO ANY TRAINING THAT WOULD BE**
24 **NEEDED FOR DRIVERS IF SELF-DRIVING VEHICLES ARE AUTHORIZED FOR USE**
25 **ON STATE HIGHWAYS, INCLUDING ISSUES RELATED TO DRIVER EDUCATION**
26 **PROGRAMS FOR NEW DRIVERS;**

27 **(II) ISSUES RELATED TO LIABILITY IN THE EVENT THAT A**
28 **SELF-DRIVING VEHICLE IS INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT RESULTING IN INJURY**
29 **OR PROPERTY DAMAGE; AND**

1 **(III) ANY OTHER ISSUE THAT THE TASK FORCE DETERMINES**
2 **TO BE RELEVANT IF SELF-DRIVING VEHICLES ARE AUTHORIZED FOR USE ON**
3 **STATE HIGHWAYS.**

4 **(G) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2017, THE TASK FORCE SHALL REPORT**
5 **ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN**
6 **ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE**
7 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

8 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 June 1, 2014. It shall remain effective for a period 3 years and 1 month and, at the end
10 of June 30, 2017, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act
11 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.