

HOUSE BILL 622

C8

6lr1187

By: **Delegate Krimm**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2016

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Economic Competitiveness and Commerce – Expansion of**
3 **International Market Presence – Feasibility Study**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Economic Competitiveness and Commerce
5 to conduct or hire a consultant to conduct a certain feasibility study relating to the
6 expansion of the international market presence of businesses in the State; requiring
7 the Department to report the findings of the feasibility study to the Governor and
8 the General Assembly within a certain time period under certain circumstances;
9 making this Act subject to a certain contingency; providing for the termination of
10 this Act under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the Department of
11 Economic Competitiveness and Commerce.

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

14 (a) The Department of Economic Competitiveness and Commerce shall conduct
15 or hire a consultant to conduct an assessment of the feasibility of expanding the
16 international market presence of businesses in the State.

17 (b) The feasibility study shall include:

18 (1) an analysis of the international market presence of businesses in the
19 State, including an overview of current export sales, foreign trade offices, and foreign trade
20 shows and targeted missions;

21 (2) an analysis of the international market presence of other states; and

22 (3) an assessment of the feasibility of expanding the international market
23 presence of businesses in the State by:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (i) increasing exports to international markets of goods and services
2 produced in the State;
- 3 (ii) raising awareness of existing export promotion programs;
- 4 (iii) facilitating greater access and usage of the State's ExportMD
5 grant and FlexEx programs;
- 6 (iv) planning and executing foreign trade shows and targeted
7 missions; and
- 8 (v) expanding the current network of foreign trade offices.

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, within 6 months after
10 receiving funding under Section 3 of this Act, the Department shall report on the findings
11 of the feasibility study to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
12 Government Article, the General Assembly.

13 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is contingent on the
14 receipt of federal funding or funding from any other source to finance the feasibility study
15 required under Section 1 of this Act. The Department of Economic Competitiveness and
16 Commerce shall notify the Department of Legislative Services within 15 days after the
17 funding is received. If notice of the receipt of funding is not received by the Department of
18 Legislative Services on or before June 30, 2019, this Act shall be null and void without the
19 necessity of further action by the General Assembly.

20 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions of
21 Section 3 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 2016.