

SENATE BILL 539

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CF HB 539

By: **Senators Ramirez, Jones–Rodwell, Klausmeier, Raskin, and Stone**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2014

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Implementation and Use of Body Cameras by Law**
3 **Enforcement Officers**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study the Implementation and Use
5 of Body Cameras by Law Enforcement Officers; providing for the composition,
6 chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force
7 from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of
8 certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations
9 regarding the procurement and use of body cameras by law enforcement
10 officers; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to
11 the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing
12 for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the establishment of
13 the Task Force to Study the Implementation and Use of Body Cameras by Law
14 Enforcement Officers.

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

17 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Implementation and Use of Body
18 Cameras by Law Enforcement Officers.

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

20 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President
21 of the Senate;

22 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
23 the House;

24 (3) the Secretary of State Police or the Secretary's designee;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (4) the Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee;
- 2 (5) the Public Defender or the Public Defender's designee;
- 3 (6) one representative of the Governor's Office of Crime Control and
4 Prevention;
- 5 (7) one representative of the Maryland Fraternal Order of Police
6 Lodge 26;
- 7 (8) one representative from each of the five major local law
8 enforcement agencies in the State, as determined and appointed by the Governor;
- 9 (9) one representative of a law enforcement agency that currently
10 utilizes body cameras to record law enforcement officer activities, as appointed by the
11 chair of the Task Force;
- 12 (10) one representative of the American Civil Liberties Union; and
- 13 (11) two experts in any field deemed relevant for the purpose of the
14 Task Force, as determined and appointed by the chair of the Task Force.
- 15 (c) The Governor shall appoint a chair of the Task Force from among its
16 members.
- 17 (d) The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention and the
18 Department of State Police shall provide staff for the Task Force.
- 19 (e) A member of the Task Force:
- 20 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but
- 21 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
22 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- 23 (f) The Task Force shall consider and make recommendations on:
- 24 (1) the procurement of body cameras for law enforcement officers,
25 including standards related to hardware, digital storage and integration, and vendor
26 support;
- 27 (2) the best practices and procedures for:
- 28 (i) the use of body cameras by law enforcement officers,
29 including which law enforcement activities should be recorded; and

1 (ii) training law enforcement officers on the use of body
2 cameras;

3 (3) any potential constitutional issues that may arise from the use of
4 body cameras by law enforcement officers;

5 (4) the funding options available for the acquisition of body cameras
6 by State and local law enforcement agencies; and

7 (5) any other issues the Task Force determines relevant to the
8 implementation and use of body cameras by law enforcement officers.

9 (g) On or before December 1, 2014, the Task Force shall submit a final report
10 of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246
11 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 June 1, 2014. It shall remain effective for a period of 7 months and, at the end of
14 December 31, 2014, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act
15 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.