

# SENATE BILL 773

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CF HB 941

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By: **The President (By Request – Maryland Economic Development and Business Climate Commission) and Senators Benson, Conway, Currie, DeGrange, Edwards, Feldman, Guzzone, Hershey, Jennings, Kasemeyer, King, Klausmeier, Lee, Madaleno, Manno, Mathias, McFadden, Middleton, Miller, Peters, Pugh, Rosapepe, Serafini, Waugh, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 16, 2015

Assigned to: Finance and Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Exemptions From Higher Education Ethics Requirements**  
3 **and Procurement Rules to Facilitate Technology Transfer**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Exemptions from Higher  
5 Education Ethics Requirements and Procurement Rules to Facilitate Technology  
6 Transfer; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force;  
7 prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but  
8 authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to  
9 review, study, and make recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the  
10 Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the  
11 General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this  
12 Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Exemptions from Higher  
13 Education Ethics Requirements and Procurement Rules to Facilitate Technology  
14 Transfer.

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

17 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Exemptions from Higher Education Ethics  
18 Requirements and Procurement Rules to Facilitate Technology Transfer.

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

20 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
21 the Senate;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3           (3)   the Secretary of Business and Economic Development, or the  
4 Secretary's designee;

5           (4)   the Executive Director of the Maryland Technology Development  
6 Corporation, or the Executive Director's designee;

7           (5)   four representatives, appointed by the Chancellor of the University  
8 System of Maryland, with experience and expertise in:

9                   (i)   technology transfer and commercialization;

10                   (ii)  ethics and intellectual property and licensing;

11                   (iii) economic development; and

12                   (iv)  State and university procurement practices;

13           (6)   the President of Morgan State University, or the President's designee;

14           (7)   the President of St. Mary's College of Maryland, or the President's  
15 designee; and

16           (8)   one representative of a technology incubator that is affiliated with a  
17 university and located in the State.

18           (c)   The Task Force shall elect a chair from among its members.

19           (d)   The University System of Maryland shall provide staff for the Task Force.

20           (e)   A member of the Task Force:

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

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

24           (f)   The Task Force shall:

25                   (1)   review the effect of existing State ethics requirements and procurement  
26 rules on technology transfer at universities, including:

27                           (i)   the participation of faculty in economic development activities;

28                           (ii)  the purchase of research equipment and supplies; and

1 (iii) the hiring of research personnel;

2 (2) study options for creating exemptions from, or other modifications of,  
3 State ethics requirements and procurement rules to:

4 (i) meet the complex needs of universities;

5 (ii) maintain the necessary protections provided by ethics  
6 requirements and procurement rules; and

7 (iii) facilitate technology transfer at universities; and

8 (3) make recommendations regarding the relaxation of ethics requirements  
9 and procurement rules to facilitate technology transfer at universities in the State.

10 (g) On or before December 1, 2015, the Task Force shall report its findings and  
11 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State  
12 Government Article, the General Assembly.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
14 1, 2015. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June  
15 30, 2016, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be  
16 abrogated and of no further force and effect.