

# SENATE BILL 893

P1, C8

5lr3039

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By: **Senator Manno**

Introduced and read first time: March 3, 2015

Assigned to: Rules

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commission on Free Trade, Currency Manipulation, and State Sovereignty –**  
3 **Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission on Free Trade, Currency Manipulation,  
5 and State Sovereignty; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the  
6 Commission; prohibiting a member of the Commission from receiving certain  
7 compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the  
8 Commission to conduct a certain annual assessment, provide a certain mechanism  
9 for certain input, work with certain groups for a certain purpose, and develop certain  
10 recommendations under certain circumstances; authorizing the Commission to  
11 recommend certain legislation; requiring the Commission to submit  
12 recommendations developed under a certain provision of this Act to certain persons;  
13 requiring the Commission to submit a certain annual report to certain persons;  
14 defining a certain term; and generally relating to the Commission on Free Trade,  
15 Currency Manipulation, and State Sovereignty.

16 BY adding to

17 Article – State Government  
18 Section 9–3101 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 31. Commission on Free Trade,  
19 Currency Manipulation, and State Sovereignty”  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2014 Replacement Volume)

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

24 **Article – State Government**

25 **SUBTITLE 31. COMMISSION ON FREE TRADE, CURRENCY MANIPULATION, AND**  
26 **STATE SOVEREIGNTY.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **9-3101.**

2 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION, "INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENT" MEANS  
3 A TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND A FOREIGN  
4 COUNTRY.

5 (2) "INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENT" DOES NOT INCLUDE A  
6 TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE AND A FOREIGN COUNTRY TO WHICH THE  
7 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS NOT A PARTY.

8 (B) THERE IS A COMMISSION ON FREE TRADE, CURRENCY MANIPULATION,  
9 AND STATE SOVEREIGNTY.

10 (C) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

11 (1) THE CHAIR OF THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, OR THE  
12 CHAIR'S DESIGNEE;

13 (2) THE CHAIR OF THE HOUSE ECONOMIC MATTERS COMMITTEE, OR  
14 THE CHAIR'S DESIGNEE;

15 (3) THE SECRETARY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,  
16 OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

17 (4) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, OR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S  
18 DESIGNEE; AND

19 (5) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:

20 (I) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A NONPROFIT ENVIRONMENTAL  
21 ORGANIZATION;

22 (II) A REPRESENTATIVE OF ORGANIZED LABOR APPOINTED  
23 FROM A LIST PROVIDED JOINTLY BY THE MARYLAND STATE AND DISTRICT OF  
24 COLUMBIA AFL-CIO, MARYLAND STATE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, AND  
25 AFSCME MARYLAND;

26 (III) A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN EXPORT BUSINESS LOCATED IN  
27 THE STATE;

28 (IV) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A BUSINESS LOCATED IN THE STATE  
29 THAT IS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE; AND

1                   **(V) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A MANUFACTURER LOCATED IN THE**  
2 **STATE.**

3           **(D) THE CHAIR OF THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, OR THE CHAIR'S**  
4 **DESIGNEE, AND THE CHAIR OF THE HOUSE ECONOMIC MATTERS COMMITTEE, OR**  
5 **THE CHAIR'S DESIGNEE, SHALL COCHAIR THE COMMISSION;**

6           **(E) THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND**  
7 **THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE**  
8 **COMMISSION.**

9           **(F) A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION:**

10                   **(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE**  
11 **COMMISSION; BUT**

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

14           **(G) THE COMMISSION SHALL:**

15                   **(1) CONDUCT AN ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF THE LEGAL AND**  
16 **ECONOMIC IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS ON STATE AND LOCAL**  
17 **LAWS, STATE SOVEREIGNTY, AND THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT IN THE STATE;**

18                   **(2) PROVIDE A MECHANISM BY WHICH MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL**  
19 **ASSEMBLY AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN PROVIDE INPUT REGARDING THE**  
20 **LEGAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS ON STATE**  
21 **AND LOCAL LAWS, STATE SOVEREIGNTY, AND THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT IN THE**  
22 **STATE;**

23                   **(3) WORK WITH INTERESTED GROUPS IN OTHER STATES TO DEVELOP**  
24 **MEANS TO RESOLVE THE CONFLICTING GOALS AND TENSION INHERENT IN THE**  
25 **RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS AND STATE**  
26 **SOVEREIGNTY;**

27                   **(4) DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS TO PROTECT THE JOB AND**  
28 **BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT OF THE STATE AND STATE SOVEREIGNTY FROM ANY**  
29 **NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS; AND**

30                   **(5) IF REQUESTED BY THE GOVERNOR OR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
31 **OR ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN INITIATIVE, CONSIDER AND DEVELOP**

1 RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING HOW THE STATE SHOULD RESPOND TO  
2 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES PRESENTED BY A SPECIFIC INTERNATIONAL  
3 TRADE AGREEMENT.

4 (H) THE COMMISSION MAY RECOMMEND LEGISLATION TO ADDRESS ANY  
5 ISSUES PRESENTED BY INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS.

6 (I) THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT ANY RECOMMENDATIONS DEVELOPED  
7 UNDER SUBSECTION (G)(5) OF THIS SECTION TO THE GOVERNOR, THE MARYLAND  
8 CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION, AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THIS  
9 ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

10 (J) THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE  
11 GOVERNOR, THE MARYLAND CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION, AND, IN ACCORDANCE  
12 WITH § 2-1246 OF THIS ARTICLE, THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND THE  
13 HOUSE ECONOMIC MATTERS COMMITTEE ON:

14 (1) ITS ACTIVITIES;

15 (2) ANY RECOMMENDATIONS DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (G)(4)  
16 OR (5) OF THIS SECTION; AND

17 (3) ANY LEGISLATION RECOMMENDED UNDER SUBSECTION (H) OF  
18 THIS SECTION.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
20 October 1, 2015.