

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 1033 (Senator Peters, *et al.*)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Task Force to Study the Feasibility of a Bowie State University Law School

This bill establishes the Task Force to Study the Feasibility of a Bowie State University (BSU) Law School. BSU must staff the task force. Task force members may not receive compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the standard State travel regulations, as provided in the State budget. By December 1, 2020, the task force must report its findings and recommendations. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2020, and terminates June 30, 2022.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The University System of Maryland advises that BSU can staff the task force and complete the required report using existing resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The task force must elect a chair from among its members.

The task force must:

- study the feasibility of establishing and operating a BSU Law School in Prince George's County as specified; and
- make recommendations on whether it is legally, operationally, and economically feasible to do so.

Current Law/Background: Both of the public law schools in the State are located in Baltimore City: (1) the University of Maryland (UM) Francis King Carey School of Law at the University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus and (2) the University of Baltimore (UB) School of Law at the University of Baltimore. In 2019, 192 individuals graduated from the UM School of Law, and 198 individuals graduated from the UB School of Law. In that same year, BSU awarded 826 bachelor's degrees, 252 master's degrees, and 7 doctorates.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: HB 1621 (Delegate R. Watson, *et al.*) - Rules and Executive Nominations.

Information Source(s): Maryland Higher Education Commission; University System of Maryland; Department of Legislative Services

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