

SENATE BILL 888

C3, K3

(3lr3182)

ENROLLED BILL

— Finance/Economic Matters —

Introduced by ~~Senator Garagiola~~ Senators Garagiola, Klausmeier, and Muse

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Temporary Disability Insurance Programs and the**
3 **Process for Assisting Individuals with Disabilities at Local Departments of**
4 **Social Services**

5 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Temporary Disability
6 Insurance Programs and the Process for Assisting Individuals with Disabilities
7 at Local Departments of Social Services; providing for the composition, chair,
8 and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from
9 receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain
10 expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations
11 regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and
12 recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a
13 certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to
14 the Task Force to Study Temporary Disability Insurance Programs and the

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 Process for Assisting Individuals with Disabilities at Local Departments of
 2 Social Services.

3 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
 4 MARYLAND, That:

5 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Temporary Disability Insurance Programs
 6 and the Process for Assisting Individuals with Disabilities at Local Departments of
 7 Social Services.

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

9 (1) ~~three~~ two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
 10 President of the Senate;

11 (2) ~~three~~ two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the
 12 Speaker of the House;

13 (3) the Commissioner of the Maryland Insurance Administration, or
 14 the Commissioner's designee;

15 (4) the Secretary of Human Resources, or the Secretary's designee;

16 (5) the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, or the
 17 Secretary's designee;

18 (6) the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's
 19 designee; and

20 (7) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

21 (i) one representative of the Workers' Compensation
 22 Commission;

23 (ii) one representative of ~~the American Cancer Society~~ All
 24 Shades of Pink;

25 (iii) one representative of the Cancer Support Foundation;

26 (iv) two representatives of Maryland labor organizations;

27 (v) one representative of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society;

28 ~~(v)~~ (vi) ~~three~~ two members of the business community;

29 ~~(vi)~~ (vii) two members of the insurance industry, including one
 30 member of the temporary disability insurance industry; ~~and~~

- 1 ~~(vii)~~ *(viii)* one member of the public;
- 2 ~~(viii)~~ *(ix)* one representative of a disability advocacy
3 organization; and
- 4 ~~(ix)~~ *(x)* two representatives of local departments of social services;
5 and
- 6 *(xi)* at least two representatives of cancer treatment centers in the
7 State who perform patient navigation services.

8 (c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

9 (d) The Maryland Insurance Administration and the Department of Human
10 Resources shall provide staff for the Task Force.

11 (e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

15 (f) The Task Force shall:

16 (1) study the full complement of benefits available under State and
17 federal law to workers and recently unemployed individuals in Maryland who are
18 disabled;

19 (2) study the wage replacement benefits available to a worker or a
20 recently unemployed individual in Maryland who becomes disabled due to
21 nonwork-related illness or injury;

22 (3) study the availability and sufficiency of wage replacement benefits
23 available to workers and recently unemployed individuals in Maryland who become
24 disabled due to nonwork-related cancer;

25 (4) study the exclusivity and exhaustion of benefit standards that
26 limit the level or extent of benefits that a worker or a recently unemployed individual
27 in Maryland who is disabled may receive;

28 (5) study and compare temporary disability insurance programs in
29 other jurisdictions in terms of:

30 (i) coverage;

SENATE BILL 888

- 1 (ii) eligibility requirements and limitations;
- 2 (iii) minimum and maximum benefit threshold amounts;
- 3 (iv) costs to employers, employees, and administrators;
- 4 (v) funding mechanisms;
- 5 (vi) administration; and
- 6 (vii) appeals processes;

7 (6) study and make recommendations regarding the adequacy of the
 8 application processes utilized by local departments of social services to assist
 9 individuals who become disabled due to nonwork-related illness or injury, including
 10 individuals undergoing treatment for cancer, and who apply for assistance, including
 11 food stamps, temporary cash assistance, energy assistance benefits, temporary
 12 disability assistance benefits, and medical assistance;

13 ~~(6)~~ (7) make recommendations regarding potential costs and benefits to
 14 the State's workforce of establishing a temporary disability insurance program; and

15 ~~(7)~~ (8) make recommendations regarding the potential structure,
 16 administration, eligibility standards, and funding mechanisms for a temporary
 17 disability insurance program in Maryland.

18 (g) On or before December 1, 2013, the Task Force shall report its findings
 19 and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
 20 Government Article, the General Assembly.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
 22 June 1, 2013. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of May 31,
 23 2014, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
 24 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.