

Chapter 191

(Senate Bill 662)

AN ACT concerning

State Finance and Procurement – One Maryland Blue Ribbon Commission

FOR the purpose of establishing the One Maryland Blue Ribbon Commission; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Commission; prohibiting a member of the Commission from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Commission to review the current State procurement process and develop policy recommendations to ensure transparency and greater participation of businesses located in the State in State contracting; requiring the Commission to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the One Maryland Blue Ribbon Commission.

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

- (a) There is a One Maryland Blue Ribbon Commission.
- (b) The Commission consists of the following members:
 - (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;
 - (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates; and
 - (3) the following representatives appointed by the Governor:
 - (i) five regional business owner representatives, one each from the Western, Capital, Southern, Central, and Eastern Shore regions of the State;
 - (ii) a representative from the Department of Business and Economic Development;
 - (iii) a representative from the Board of Public Works;
 - (iv) a representative from the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services;
 - (v) a representative from the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation;

- Management;
- (vi) a representative from the Department of Budget and
- (vii) a representative from the Department of General Services;
- Construction Employment;
- (ix) a representative from AFSCME Maryland;
- (x) a representative of a nonprofit organization that specializes in good government and transparency issues;
- ~~(vi)~~ (xi) a representative from the Maryland Municipal League;
- ~~(vii)~~ (xii) a representative from the Maryland Association of Counties;
- ~~(viii)~~ (xiii) a representative from the Maryland Economic Development Corporation; ~~and~~
- ~~(ix)~~ (xiv) a representative from the Maryland Chamber of Commerce; and
- (xv) a representative from ChoiceWorks, Inc.

(c) The Governor shall designate the Chair of the Commission.

(d) The Department of Business and Economic Development shall provide staff for the Commission.

(e) A member of the Commission:

(1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Commission; but

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

(f) The Commission shall:

(1) review the advantages and disadvantages for businesses located in the State with regard to the current State procurement process;

(2) review current State incentives for businesses located in the State to participate in State contracts;

(3) review geographic partnerships to determine whether State agencies are contracting with businesses located in the State; and

(4) develop policy recommendations on how the State can improve the procurement process to ensure transparency and greater participation of businesses located in the State in State contracting.

(g) On or before December 31, 2015, the Commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

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

Approved by the Governor, May 12, 2015.