

# HOUSE BILL 1454

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By: **Delegate Parrott**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2017

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Electric Power Grid Security**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on Electric Power Grid Security; providing  
4 for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of  
5 the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the  
6 reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make  
7 recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its  
8 findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or  
9 before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating  
10 to the Task Force on Electric Power Grid Security.

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

13 (a) There is a Task Force on Electric Power Grid Security.

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

15 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, one from each of the two major  
16 political parties, appointed by the President of the Senate;

17 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, one from each of the two major  
18 political parties, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

19 (3) the Chairman of the Public Service Commission, or the Chairman's  
20 designee;

21 (4) the People's Counsel, or the People's Counsel's designee;

22 (5) the Adjutant General of Maryland, or the Adjutant General's designee;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (6) the Executive Director of the Maryland Emergency Management  
2 Agency, or the Executive Director's designee; and

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

4 (i) one representative of the Governor's Office of Homeland  
5 Security;

6 (ii) two representatives of electric companies operating in Maryland;

7 (iii) one professor in a field directly related to electrical engineering  
8 or information technology from an institution of higher education in Maryland; and

9 (iv) one engineer experienced in electric power grid security.

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

11 (d) The Public Service Commission shall provide staff for the Task Force.

12 (e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

16 (f) (1) The Task Force shall conduct a study of the electric grid in Maryland.

17 (2) The study shall include:

18 (i) an evaluation and summary of the current state of the electric  
19 grid and associated computer systems and networks;

20 (ii) an identification of potential security threats to the electric grid  
21 and associated computer systems and networks, including the threat of electromagnetic  
22 pulse or other attacks and natural threats such as solar flares;

23 (iii) an assessment of whether further efforts are needed to secure the  
24 electric grid and associated computer systems and networks; and

25 (iv) recommendations regarding measures to secure the electric grid  
26 and associated computer systems and networks against damage.

27 (g) On or before December 31, 2018, the Task Force shall report its findings and  
28 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State  
29 Government Article, the General Assembly.

1           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
2 1, 2017. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 1 month and, at the end of June  
3 30, 2019, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be  
4 abrogated and of no further force and effect.