

HOUSE BILL 1112

J1

9lr1904

By: **Delegate J. Lewis**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2019

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Health Care for Inmates in Correctional Facilities**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Health Care for Inmates in
4 Correctional Facilities; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task
5 Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation,
6 but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to
7 study and make recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Task
8 Force to meet with a certain frequency; requiring the Task Force to report its findings
9 and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a
10 certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the
11 Task Force to Study Health Care for Inmates in Correctional Facilities.

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

13 That:

14 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Health Care for Inmates in Correctional
15 Facilities.

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

17 (1) three members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President
18 of the Senate;

19 (2) three members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
20 the House;

21 (3) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee;

22 (4) the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, or the
23 Secretary's designee;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (5) the Public Defender of Maryland, or the Public Defender's designee;

2 (6) a representative of the Office of Inmate Health and Clinical Services,
3 designated by the Executive Director of Field Support for Treatment Services;

4 (7) the Executive Director of AFSCME Maryland, or the Executive
5 Director's designee;

6 (8) the Executive Director of Disability Rights Maryland, or the Executive
7 Director's designee; and

8 (9) the Executive Director of the Maryland Prisoners' Rights Coalition, or
9 the Executive Director's designee.

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

11 (d) The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services shall provide staff
12 for the Task Force.

13 (e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

17 (f) The Task Force shall meet at least monthly at the times and places the chair
18 determines.

19 (g) The Task Force shall:

20 (1) review the policies and practices of the Department of Public Safety and
21 Correctional Services regarding access to health care services, particularly mental health,
22 chronic care, and substance abuse services;

23 (2) determine the capital or operational expenditures that are necessary to
24 address any issues regarding:

25 (i) the quality of health care services received by inmates in
26 correctional facilities; and

27 (ii) inmates' access to health care services in correctional facilities;
28 and

29 (3) make recommendations regarding changes in policies, practices, or
30 capital or operational expenditures that are necessary to address any issues regarding the

1 quality of health care services received by inmates and inmates' access to health care
2 services.

3 (h) On or before December 31, 2019, the Task Force shall report its findings and
4 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
5 Government Article, the General Assembly.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
7 1, 2019. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June
8 30, 2020, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
9 abrogated and of no further force and effect.