

# HOUSE BILL 1250

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1lr2779

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By: **Delegate Malone**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2021

Assigned to: Judiciary

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 9, 2021

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Laws of Intestacy in Maryland**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study the Laws of Intestacy in  
4 Maryland; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force;  
5 authorizing the chair of the Task Force to appoint a certain number of additional  
6 members to the Task Force as deemed necessary by the chair; specifying that, to the  
7 extent practicable, the members appointed to the Task Force reflect the racial,  
8 ethnic, cultural, and gender diversity of the State; prohibiting a member of the Task  
9 Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of  
10 certain 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 certain  
13 date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task  
14 Force to Study the Laws of Intestacy in Maryland.

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

16 That:

17 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Laws of Intestacy in Maryland.

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

19 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
20 the Senate;

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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.



1 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the  
2 House; and

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

4 (i) an Orphans' Court judge residing in a jurisdiction of more than  
5 250,000 people;

6 (ii) an Orphans' Court judge residing in a jurisdiction of fewer than  
7 250,000 people;

8 (iii) a national expert on probate law;

9 (iv) one representative of the Register of Wills Association;

10 ~~(iv)~~ (v) two representatives of the Estate and Trust Law Section  
11 of the Maryland State Bar Association; and

12 ~~(v)~~ (vi) one representative of the University of Baltimore School  
13 of Law or the University of Maryland School of Law.

14 (c) (1) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

15 (2) The chair of the Task Force may appoint up to three additional  
16 members to the Task Force as considered necessary by the chair.

17 (3) To the extent practicable, the members appointed to the Task Force  
18 shall reflect the racial, ethnic, cultural, and gender diversity of the State.

19 (d) The Administrative Office of the Courts shall provide staff for the Task Force.

20 (e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

24 (f) The Task Force shall:

25 (1) examine the laws of intestacy in Maryland;

26 (2) analyze and compare the laws and practices of other states relating to  
27 the laws of intestacy;

28 (3) examine any other research, analysis, or guidance related to the laws  
29 of intestacy that the Task Force determines to be relevant; and

1           (4)    make recommendations to revise the laws of intestacy in Maryland.

2           (g)    On or before January 1, 2022, the Task Force shall report its findings and  
3 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State  
4 Government Article, the General Assembly.

5           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
6 1, 2021. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2022, this  
7 Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no  
8 further force and effect.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.