

HOUSE BILL 999

P1, F2, C8

4lr3303

By: Delegates Hill, Crutchfield, Guzzone, Kaiser, Qi, Ruth, ~~and Wu~~ Wu, Alston, Bagnall, Bhandari, Chisholm, Cullison, Hutchinson, S. Johnson, Kerr, R. Lewis, Martinez, M. Morgan, Pena-Melnyk, Reilly, Rosenberg, Szeliga, Taveras, White Holland, and Woods

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2024

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 5, 2024

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Workgroup on Establishing a Science and Technology Best Practices and**
3 **Innovation Network**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Workgroup on Establishing a Science and Technology
5 Best Practices and Innovation Network; and generally relating to the Workgroup on
6 Establishing a Science and Technology Best Practices and Innovation Network.

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

9 (a) There is a Workgroup on Establishing a Science and Technology Best
10 Practices and Innovation Network.

11 (b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:

12 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
13 the Senate;

14 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the
15 House;

16 ~~(3) the Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary's designee;~~

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.



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1 ~~(4) the Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's designee;~~

2 ~~(5) the Secretary of Higher Education, or the Secretary's designee;~~

3 ~~(6) the Secretary of Energy, or the Secretary's designee;~~

4 ~~(7) the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary's designee;~~

5 ~~(8) the Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee;~~

6 ~~(9) the Executive Director of the Maryland Health Care Commission, or the~~
7 ~~Executive Director's designee;~~

8 ~~(10)~~ (3) the Executive Director of the Maryland Technology Development
9 Corporation, or the Executive Director's designee;

10 (4) one representative of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County,
11 designated by the President of the University;

12 (5) five representatives appointed by the Governor who:

13 (i) have expertise or experience in fostering community-based
14 applications and using science or technology in teaching, mentoring, or hobbying; and

15 (ii) reflect the racial, ethnic, religious, gender, and geographic
16 diversity of the State;

17 ~~(11)~~ (6) five representatives of institutions of higher education in the
18 State with expertise in current science or technology research, industry, or innovation,
19 appointed by the Governor, including at least one representative each from:

20 (i) a historically Black college or university;

21 (ii) an independent institution of higher education; and

22 (iii) a community college;

23 ~~(12)~~ (7) ~~three~~ two representatives from the private sector with expertise
24 in current developments in science or technology research, industry, or innovation; and

25 ~~(13)~~ (8) ~~three~~ two representatives from the nonprofit sector with
26 expertise in or history of recognized advocacy on behalf of ethical and human practices and
27 protections in science and technology research, industry, or innovation.

28 (c) The Workgroup shall elect a chair from among its members.

1 (d) The University of Maryland, Baltimore County shall provide staff for the
2 Workgroup.

3 (e) A member of the Workgroup:

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

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

7 (f) The Workgroup shall:

8 (1) identify and analyze options for establishing and maintaining ~~a~~ an open
9 access science, technology, and innovation network ~~or hub of citizen scientists and~~
10 experts in science, technology, and industry to:

11 (i) facilitate noninstitutional voluntary collaboration;

12 (ii) facilitate the open exchange of ideas and nonproprietary
13 state-of-the-art and evidence-based data and information; and

14 ~~(iii) inform State policy and practices; and~~

15 ~~(iv) (iii)~~ (iii) promote solution development and decision making based
16 on sound science, innovation, and best practices;

17 (2) identify and evaluate methods for:

18 (i) establishing a digital or virtual referral network of experts in
19 science, technology, and industry, including expansion of existing entities and networks;

20 (ii) registering expert participants; and

21 (iii) making network expertise available to the public; and

22 ~~(3) examine the costs of developing and maintaining a network of experts~~
23 ~~in science, technology, and industry; and~~

24 ~~(4) (3)~~ (3) make recommendations regarding the establishment of a science and
25 technology best practices and innovation network.

26 (g) On or before December 1, 2024, the Workgroup shall report its findings and
27 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State
28 Government Article, the General Assembly.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
30 1, 2024. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June

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1 30, 2025, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
2 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.