

HOUSE BILL 999

P1, F2, C8

4lr3303

By: **Delegates Hill, Crutchfield, Guzzone, Kaiser, Qi, Ruth, and Wu**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2024

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

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;

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

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

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

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

2 (9) the Executive Director of the Maryland Health Care Commission, or the
3 Executive Director's designee;

4 (10) the Executive Director of the Maryland Technology Development
5 Corporation, or the Executive Director's designee;

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

9 (i) a historically Black college or university;

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

11 (iii) a community college;

12 (12) three representatives from the private sector with expertise in current
13 developments in science or technology research, industry, or innovation; and

14 (13) three representatives from the nonprofit sector with expertise in or
15 history of recognized advocacy on behalf of ethical and human practices and protections in
16 science and technology research, industry, or innovation.

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

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

20 (e) A member of the Workgroup:

21 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Workgroup; 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 Workgroup shall:

25 (1) identify and analyze options for establishing and maintaining a
26 network of experts in science, technology, and industry to:

27 (i) facilitate voluntary collaboration;

28 (ii) facilitate the open exchange of state-of-the-art and
29 evidence-based data and information;

1 (iii) inform State policy and practices; and

2 (iv) promote solution development and decision making based on
3 sound science, innovation, and best practices;

4 (2) identify and evaluate methods for:

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

7 (ii) registering expert participants; and

8 (iii) making network expertise available to the public;

9 (3) examine the costs of developing and maintaining a network of experts
10 in science, technology, and industry; and

11 (4) make recommendations regarding the establishment of a science and
12 technology best practices and innovation network.

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

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
17 1, 2024. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June
18 30, 2025, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
19 abrogated and of no further force and effect.