

# HOUSE BILL 1378

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By: **Delegate Conaway**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2017

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Feasibility of Building a Maryland Inclusive Maritime**  
3 **Facility**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study the Feasibility of Building a  
5 Maryland Inclusive Maritime Facility; providing for the composition, chair, and  
6 staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving  
7 certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses;  
8 requiring the Task Force to study the feasibility of building a sustainable and  
9 inclusive maritime facility that includes certain features; requiring the Task Force  
10 to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General  
11 Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and  
12 generally relating to the Task Force to Study the Feasibility of Building a Maryland  
13 Inclusive Maritime Facility.

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

16 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Feasibility of Building a Maryland  
17 Inclusive Maritime Facility.

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

19 (1) the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary's designee; and

20 (2) the following members, or their designees, appointed by the Secretary  
21 of Commerce:

22 (i) one member of the Back Creek Conservatory;

23 (ii) the Principal of Boating Law on the Board of Directors of  
24 Annapolis Community Boating;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (iii) the Commodore of the Eastport Yacht Club;
- 2 (iv) the Executive Director of the Marine Trades Association of  
3 Maryland;
- 4 (v) the Executive Director of Downtown Sailing in Baltimore;
- 5 (vi) the President of Market Economics, Inc.;
- 6 (vii) the Executive Director of the Baltimore Rowing Club;
- 7 (viii) the President of the University of Maryland Center for  
8 Environmental Science;
- 9 (ix) one member of the Board of Officers Student Environmental  
10 Alliance at Washington College;
- 11 (x) one faculty member of a Maryland college or university who  
12 teaches a course in sustainability studies;
- 13 (xi) the Director of the Baltimore County Recreation and Parks  
14 Department;
- 15 (xii) the Director of Career Readiness of Baltimore County Public  
16 Schools;
- 17 (xiii) one member of the faculty of the Maritime Institute of  
18 Technology and Graduate Studies; and
- 19 (xiv) one faculty member of the Baltimore New Era Academy.
- 20 (c) The Secretary of Commerce shall designate the chair of the Task Force.
- 21 (d) The Department of Commerce shall provide staff for the Task Force.
- 22 (e) A member of the Task Force:
- 23 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but
- 24 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
25 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- 26 (f) The Task Force shall study the feasibility of building a sustainable and  
27 inclusive maritime facility that:

(1) serves as a catalyst for economic development, using sport, maritime heritage, and hands-on education and events in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields;

(2) emphasizes Maryland's cultural, business, geographic, and resource diversity and encourages collaboration among interested stakeholders;

(3) includes an educational institution that has initiatives emphasizing STEM resources for students;

(4) serves as a STEM workforce development vehicle for youth and young adults;

(5) collaborates with Maryland maritime tradespeople and the business community to develop and apply advanced technologies;

(6) encourages sustainability as part of the solution to scarcity;

(7) promotes tourism, serves as a destination for STEM-based field trips, and contains an interactive visitors center;

(8) hosts a professional sailing team that trains for and competes in international events such as the America's Cup; and

(9) promotes the design, building, and testing of the professional sailing team's boats in Maryland, the Chesapeake Bay region, and the United States, including America's Cup boats.

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

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2017. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2018, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.