

HOUSE BILL 56

R2, R1

0lr0869

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate Arentz**

Requested: October 10, 2019

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2020

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Chesapeake Bay Bridge – Reconstruction Advisory Group and Traffic Study**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Reconstruction Advisory
4 Group; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Advisory Group;
5 specifying the terms of the members of the Advisory Group; prohibiting a member of
6 the Advisory Group from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the
7 reimbursement of certain expenses; specifying the duties of the Advisory Group;
8 requiring any entity that conducts a study pertaining to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge
9 and certain surrounding highways to report its findings and recommendations to the
10 Advisory Group; requiring the Advisory Group to report its activities and
11 recommendations quarterly to the Maryland Transportation Authority; requiring
12 the Advisory Group to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and
13 the General Assembly on or before a certain date each year; requiring the State
14 Highway Administration, in collaboration with the Maryland Transportation
15 Institute, to conduct a study on traffic management; providing for the purpose of the
16 study; requiring the Administration to study and make recommendations regarding
17 certain matters; requiring the Administration to update the Advisory Group on the
18 progress of the study quarterly; requiring the Administration to report its findings
19 and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a
20 certain date; specifying the terms of the initial members of the Advisory Group;
21 defining certain terms; and generally relating to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge.

22 BY adding to

23 Article – Transportation

24 Section 4–211

25 Annotated Code of Maryland

26 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

27 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
28 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



Article – Transportation**4–211.**

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “ADVISORY GROUP” MEANS THE CHESAPEAKE BAY BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION ADVISORY GROUP.

(3) “CHESAPEAKE BAY BRIDGE” MEANS THE WILLIAM PRESTON LANE, JR. MEMORIAL CHESAPEAKE BAY BRIDGE AND PARALLEL CHESAPEAKE BAY BRIDGE.

(B) THERE IS A CHESAPEAKE BAY BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION ADVISORY GROUP IN THE AUTHORITY.

(C) THE ADVISORY GROUP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

(1) TWO MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND, APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

(2) TWO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

(3) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE AUTHORITY, OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S DESIGNEE; AND

(4) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:

(I) THREE MEMBERS WHO LIVE IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY;

(II) THREE MEMBERS WHO LIVE IN QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY;

AND

(III) TWO MEMBERS WHO ARE FAMILIAR WITH ISSUES FACED BY COMMUTERS WHO CROSS THE CHESAPEAKE BAY.

(D) (1) THE TERM OF AN APPOINTED MEMBER IS 3 YEARS.

(2) THE TERMS OF THE APPOINTED MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY GROUP ON

1 **JULY 1, 2020.**

2 **(3) AT THE END OF A TERM, AN APPOINTED MEMBER CONTINUES TO**
3 **SERVE UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.**

4 **(4) AN APPOINTED MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS**
5 **BEGUN SERVES ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS**
6 **APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.**

7 **(E) FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS, THE ADVISORY GROUP SHALL ELECT A**
8 **CHAIR EACH YEAR.**

9 **(F) THE AUTHORITY SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE ADVISORY GROUP.**

10 **(G) A MEMBER OF THE ADVISORY GROUP:**

11 **(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE**
12 **ADVISORY GROUP; BUT**

13 **(2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE**
14 **STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.**

15 **(H) THE ADVISORY GROUP SHALL:**

16 **(1) HOLD MONTHLY MEETINGS;**

17 **(2) STUDY ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH TRAFFIC ON:**

18 **(I) THE CHESAPEAKE BAY BRIDGE; AND**

19 **(II) U.S. ROUTE 50 BETWEEN THE SEVERN RIVER BRIDGE AND**
20 **THE KENT NARROWS BRIDGE; AND**

21 **(3) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE AUTHORITY REGARDING**
22 **WAYS TO IMPROVE THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC ON:**

23 **(I) THE CHESAPEAKE BAY BRIDGE; AND**

24 **(II) U.S. ROUTE 50 BETWEEN THE SEVERN RIVER BRIDGE AND**
25 **THE KENT NARROWS BRIDGE.**

26 **(I) ANY ENTITY THAT CONDUCTS A STUDY PERTAINING TO THE**
27 **CHESAPEAKE BAY BRIDGE AND U.S. ROUTE 50 BETWEEN THE SEVERN RIVER**

BRIDGE AND THE KENT NARROWS BRIDGE SHALL REPORT ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY GROUP.

(J) (1) THE ADVISORY GROUP SHALL REPORT ITS ACTIVITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS QUARTERLY TO THE AUTHORITY.

(2) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2021, AND EACH JULY 1 THEREAFTER, THE ADVISORY GROUP SHALL REPORT ITS ACTIVITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the initial appointed members of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Reconstruction Advisory Group shall expire as follows:

(1) four members in 2021;

(2) four members in 2022; and

(3) four members in 2023.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) The State Highway Administration, in collaboration with the Maryland Transportation Institute, shall conduct a study on traffic technology and traffic management techniques used around the world to maximize traffic movement.

(b) The purpose of the study is to identify traffic technology and traffic management techniques that may be used to maximize the efficiency of traffic movement on U.S. Route 50 between the Severn River Bridge and the Kent Narrows Bridge and on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge.

(c) In conducting the study, the State Highway Administration shall:

(1) analyze the existing traffic conditions on U.S. Route 50 between the Severn River Bridge and the Kent Narrows Bridge and on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge;

(2) identify traffic technology and traffic management techniques used in cities, states, and countries to manage congestion and traffic effectively, including platooning, metering technology, and lane narrowing;

(3) explore the options for implementing traffic technology and traffic management techniques on U.S. Route 50 between the Severn River Bridge and the Kent Narrows Bridge and on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge; and

(4) develop recommendations on the feasibility of implementing, financing,

1 and operating traffic technology and traffic management techniques on U.S. Route 50
2 between the Severn River Bridge and the Kent Narrows Bridge and on the Chesapeake Bay
3 Bridge.

4 (d) (1) The State Highway Administration shall update the Chesapeake Bay
5 Bridge Reconstruction Advisory Group on the progress of the study quarterly.

6 (2) On or before January 1, 2021, the State Highway Administration shall
7 submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance
8 with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

9 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
10 1, 2020.