

# HOUSE BILL 1541

C8  
SB 628/19 – FIN

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CF SB 707

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By: **Delegate Brooks**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2020

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on the Tourism Industry in Maryland**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on the Tourism Industry in Maryland;  
4 providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a  
5 member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the  
6 reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make  
7 recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its  
8 findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or  
9 before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating  
10 to the Task Force on the Tourism Industry in Maryland.

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
12 That:

13 (a) There is a Task Force on the Tourism Industry in Maryland.

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

15 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
16 the Senate;

17 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the  
18 House;

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

20 (4) the Director of the Office of Tourism Development, or the Director's  
21 designee;

22 (5) the Administrator of the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority, or the  
23 Administrator's designee;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(6) one representative of the Maryland Association of Destination Marketing Organizations, designated by the Association;

(7) one representative of the Maryland Tourism Coalition, designated by the Coalition; and

(8) five representatives of small and minority entities participating in the tourism industry, appointed by the Governor.

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

(d) The Office of Tourism Development shall provide staff for the Task Force.

(e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

(f) The Task Force shall:

(1) review the existing funding, training, and other resources available to support participants in the tourism industry in the State;

(2) study the different challenges and needs of small, medium, and large participants in the tourism industry in urban, suburban, and rural areas of the State;

(3) assess the need for additional funding, training, and other resources to support small and minority entities participating in or trying to enter into the tourism industry in the State;

(4) seek input and information from small and minority entities that are participating in or trying to enter into the tourism industry; and

(5) make recommendations regarding additional funding, training, and other resources needed to increase diversity and inclusion in the tourism industry.

(g) On or before January 1, 2022, the Task Force shall report its findings 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 this Act shall take effect July 1, 2020. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2022, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.