E4 CF SB 659

By: Delegates J. Lewis, Barron, and C. Howard

Introduced and read first time: February 17, 2017 Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

## A BILL ENTITLED

## 1 AN ACT concerning

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## Task Force on Practices and Procedures on Solitary Confinement

- 3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on Practices and Procedures on Solitary 4 Confinement; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; 5 prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but 6 authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to 7 study and make recommendations on certain issues related to solitary confinement 8 in the correctional system of the State; requiring the Task Force to report its findings 9 and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the 10 11 Task Force on Practices and Procedures on Solitary Confinement.
- SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND. 12 13 That:
- 14 There is a Task Force on Practices and Procedures on Solitary Confinement. (a)
- The Task Force consists of the following members: 15 (b)
- one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of 16 (1) 17 the Senate:
- 18 (2)one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the 19 House:
- 20 (3)the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, or the 21 Secretary's designee:
- 22 **(4)** the Attorney General, or the Attorney General's designee;
- 23the Public Defender, or the Public Defender's designee; (5)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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- one representative of the American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland, 1 2 selected by the American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland: 3 one representative of the National Juvenile Defender Center, selected by the National Juvenile Defender Center; and 4 5 (8)the following members, appointed by the Governor: 6 two individuals who have spent substantial time in solitary 7 confinement in the correctional system of the State; and 8 one psychiatrist with experience treating individuals who have (ii) spent time in solitary confinement in the correctional system of the State. 9 The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention shall designate the 10 chair of the Task Force. 11 12 (d) The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention shall provide staff for the Task Force. 13 A member of the Task Force: 14 (e) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but 15 (1) 16 is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State 17 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget. The Task Force shall: 18 (f) 19 (1)study the use of solitary confinement as a disciplinary tool, and what 20 effect solitary confinement has on recidivism and reoffense; 21(2)collect and analyze data regarding the reasons people are given solitary 22 confinement, the average duration an individual spends in solitary confinement, and demographic statistics regarding what individuals are given solitary confinement; and 2324recommend alternate means of punishment to be used instead of 25 solitary confinement and methods to reduce or eliminate the use of solitary confinement.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2017. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June

Government Article, the General Assembly.

recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State

On or before December 1, 2017, the Task Force shall report its findings and

- 1 30, 2018, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
- $2\quad abrogated \ and \ of \ no \ further \ force \ and \ effect.$