

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2017 Legislative Session

Legislative day # 12

RESOLUTION NO. 119 - 2017

Introduced by: Jon Weinstein

A RESOLUTION creating an Economic Opportunity and Prosperity Task Force to identify and study policies, programs, and potential legislation to facilitate economic growth and increase economic opportunities for individuals, businesses, and organizations in Howard County and to make recommendations to the Howard County Council and Howard County Executive.

Introduced and read first time on _____, 2017.

By order _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

Read for a second time and a public hearing held on _____, 2017.

By order _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

This Resolution was read the third time and was ___Adopted___ Adopted with amendments, ___Failed___ Withdrawn by the County Council on _____, 2017.

Certified by _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing language; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing language. ~~Strike-out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **WHEREAS**, the increase in the basic cost of living in Howard County and the State of
2 Maryland outpaces the increase in wages for a substantial portion of the population; and

3
4 **WHEREAS**, business, governmental, and community organizations address the issues of
5 workforce support in a variety of ways and will benefit from better coordination and
6 collaboration to develop comprehensive approaches; and

7
8 **WHEREAS**, workforce development, business sector growth, housing, transportation,
9 and education (including job skills training, apprenticeships, and internships), are a few of the
10 many critical areas that enable individuals to obtain higher paying, more fulfilling, and longer-
11 term jobs, help build a more skilled and stable workforce for local employers, make Howard
12 County a more attractive place to start and locate a business; and

13
14 **WHEREAS**, the County Council wishes to explore comprehensive, coordinated,
15 efficient, and effective ways to improve the economic situations and create as many pathways to
16 economic prosperity as possible for individuals and businesses in the County; and

17
18 **WHEREAS**, Section 902 of the Howard County Charter authorizes the creation of
19 temporary advisory boards of citizens to study policies and issues;

20
21 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County,
22 Maryland, this ____ day of _____, 2017, that there is an Economic Opportunity and
23 Prosperity Task Force established to study ways to increase economic growth in Howard County
24 by:

- 25 1. reviewing and analyzing polices, programs, laws, and incentives related to
26 expanding and supporting employment and economic growth in Howard
27 County;
- 28 2. recommending changes to those policies, programs, laws, and incentives; and
- 29 3. recommending any new policies, programs, and incentives to further foster
30 employment and economic growth in Howard County.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the Task Force consists of the following individuals who, informed by their diverse experiences, knowledge, and ideas, will serve as representatives of the Howard County community as a whole rather than representing any specific organization with which they may be affiliated:

1. Leonardo V. McClarty, Co-Chairperson
2. Phyllis B. Madachy, Co-Chairperson
3. Ali M. Abidi
4. Marianne H. Brackney
5. Anne I. Brinker
6. Paul K. Casey
7. Ana M. Cisneros
8. Kimberly A. Flowers
9. Jason S. Jannati
10. Elizabeth M. Noble
11. Jaykant D. Parekh
12. Gopi Suri
13. Lawrence F. Twele

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the Task Force shall:

1. create subcommittees to address these and other topics:
 - a. workforce development, including employment processes and programs, compensation, and job access;
 - b. education, including technology and vocational training, mentoring, and apprenticeships;
 - c. economic development, including attracting new and relocating businesses through incentives, land-use, regulatory simplification, capital access, and public-private partnerships;
 - d. workforce success elements, including individual health, personal finance, and legal matters;

- 1 e. housing including, affordability and workforce housing; and
2 f. transportation, including but not limited to transit and ride-sharing; and
3 2. include as members of subcommittees representatives of organizations or the Howard
4 County community with the relevant expertise and experience that the Task Force
5 considers appropriate to the subjects that the Task Force will study.

6
7 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the Task Force shall:

- 8 1. hold regular meetings;
9 2. solicit and accept public testimony in writing or electronically;
10 3. hold at least two public hearings.

11
12 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the Howard County Economic Development
13 Authority, the Howard County Public School System, the Howard Community College, and the
14 Howard County government, including each of its units, are requested to cooperate fully with the
15 Task Force.

16
17 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the County Council shall provide staff support for
18 the Task Force.

19
20 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That, on or before December 31, 2018, the Task Force
21 shall submit a report to the County Council and the County Executive that includes
22 recommendations for legislation, policies, and programs.

23
24 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the Task Force shall terminate on March 31,
25 2019.