

2013 Senate Bill 90

Task Force to Study Enhancing Boating and the Boating Industry in Maryland.

The Task Force consists of:

The Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources or the Secretary's designee, who shall serve as the chair of the Task Force, and the following individuals appointed by the Secretary:

- (1) one representative of the Marine Trades Association of Maryland;
- (2) one representative of the Department of Business and Economic Development;
- (3) one representative of the Maryland Association of Counties;
- (4) one representative of the Maryland Municipal League;
- (5) one representative of the Boat Owner's Association of the United States;
- (6) one representative of the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation;
- (7) one representative of the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association;
- (8) one representative from the Maryland Boat Act Advisory Committee;
- (9) one individual representing paddle sports; and
- (10) one representative of a local tourism board or visitor bureau in a county that borders the Chesapeake Bay.

The Task Force shall:

- (1) Evaluate options and make recommendations for enhancing boating and growing the boating industry in the State; and
- (2) Consider the following:
 - (i) incentives to encourage boats to register in the State and use marinas and boat yards for recreation, repair, and outfitting in the State;
 - (ii) the impact of modifying the State vessel excise tax rate and boat registration fees;

- (iii) the expenditure and use of the Waterway Improvement Fund and its benefits to the general boating public and the State's boating industry;
- (iv) the impact on the boating industry and the general boating public of decreased State and federal spending on boating access;
- (iii) the costs and needs of maintaining and improving public boating infrastructure and boating safety; and
- (vi) any other matter that the Task Force agrees will enhance boating in the State.

On or before September 1, 2015, the Task Force shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the 17 State Government Article, the General Assembly.