

WHEREAS, There have been complaints from employers in Prince George's County that students are not adequately prepared for work; and

WHEREAS, There is a clear need for skilled workers in many industries and fields now located in Prince George's County or likely to move there; and

WHEREAS, There is a constitutional obligation that all students receive an adequate public education that prepares them for work and citizenship; and

WHEREAS, There is interest in the community in Prince George's County in exploring an alternative model for education for students who do not go on to postsecondary education; and

WHEREAS, There exists a need to identify research-based models that better prepare students for entry into the workplace and for lifelong advancement and learning; and

WHEREAS, There has been interest in the establishment of vocational and technical training academies in Prince George's County; and

WHEREAS, There is a need for a broad-based forum, with participation from many stakeholders, for the exploration of these topics in ways that lead to practical solutions; now, therefore,

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

(a) There is a Task Force on the Establishment of Vocational and Technical Education High School Academies in Prince George's County.

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

(1) Two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(2) One member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;

(3) Three members appointed by the Chief Executive Officer of the Prince George's County public school system;

(4) Two members appointed by the Prince George's County Executive;

(5) Three members appointed by the Prince George's County Council;