

there have been studies in the past and that there is no need for additional research. Further, they argue that cooperation between the various factions is highly unrealistic and that the Task Force would be unwieldy and contentious because of its mixed composition. I have been advised that it is improbable that a Task Force comprised of individuals representing such disparate ideologies would be able to engage in productive discussion, let alone reach consensus on recommendations concerning public policy.

Furthermore, the usual and customary mechanism for policy decisions regarding instructional methods and curriculum is through local school boards. I recognize that the State may set certain parameters for local education agencies; however, the Task Force envisioned in Senate Bill 475 does not include a representative from the Maryland State Department of Education, the State agency primarily responsible for Maryland's early childhood, primary, and secondary education programs.

Finally, insofar as the use of interpreters in public colleges and universities is concerned, I have been advised that federal laws (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act) require the provision of interpreters to students who require them because of a disability. Thus, further study of this particular issue seems unnecessary.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill 475.

Sincerely,
William Donald Schaefer
Governor

Senate Bill No. 475

AN ACT concerning

Task Force on Cued Speech ~~and American Sign Language~~, *American Sign Language*, and *the Oral Method of Communication*

FOR the purpose of creating a Task Force on Cued Speech ~~and American Sign Language~~, *American Sign Language*, and *the Oral Method of Communication*; providing for the ~~membership~~ appointment, membership, and staff of the Task Force; authorizing a member of the Task Force to receive reimbursement for certain expenses under certain circumstances; requiring the Task Force to study certain issues and make certain recommendations; requiring the Task Force to make a certain report to the Governor and the General Assembly by a certain date; and generally relating to the establishment of the Task Force on Cued Speech ~~and American Sign Language~~, *American Sign Language*, and *the Oral Method of Communication*.

BY adding to

Article - Education

Section 8-313

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1992 Replacement Volume and 1993 Supplement)