1996 LAWS OF MARYLAND

- (3) the Secretary of State or Secretary of State's designee; and
- $\frac{(3)}{(3)}$ $\frac{13}{(4)}$ 18 members appointed by the Governor as follows:
 - (i) 1 representative of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene;
 - (ii) 1 representative of the Department of Human Resources;
 - (iii) 1 licensed physician;
 - (iv) 1 representative of the Office on Aging;
 - (v) 2 3 licensed morticians, one of whom shall be a small proprietor;
- (vi) 1 representative 3 2 representatives of the for-profit cemetery industry, one of whom shall be a resident cemetery owner;
 - (vii) 1 representative 2 representatives from a nonprofit cemetery;
 - (viii) 1 representative of the hospice industry;
 - (viii) (ix) 1 representative of the Attorney General's Office; and
- (x) 1 representative from the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; and
 - (ix) (xi) 4 members at large.
 - (c) The Governor shall designate the Chairperson of the Task Force.
- (d) Staff support for the Task Force shall be provided by the Department of Legislative Reference.
 - (e) The purposes and responsibilities of the Task Force are to:
 - (1) identify small businesses in the funeral and burial industries;
 - (1) (2) assess:
 - (i) the regulation of the funeral industry in this State and other states;
- (ii) the costs to consumers of funeral merchandise, including caskets, cremations, and burial plots; and
- (iii) the costs to the State and local governments for the burial of indigent individuals;
 - (iv) interest rates and financing charges in the burial industries;
- (v) the issues facing small businesses in the funeral and burial industries;
- (vi) the religious needs of various consumers as they relate to burial practices; and
- (vii) the reinterment of remains that are discovered in the development of property;