

assistance, guidance, and expertise of appropriate State agencies. At the same time, certain State standards applicable to other accommodations and facilities may not be appropriate for small bed and breakfast operations. These are legitimate issues requiring continued dialogue, analysis, and potential action.

I do not believe, however, that a State task force consisting of the representatives included within Senate Bill 153 is necessary to be responsive to the concerns of the bed and breakfast industry or for the welfare of consumers. The creation, appointment, and conduct of task forces is a time-consuming process that drains time and resources from State agencies already tasked with current responsibilities. Task forces should be employed more sparingly than in current practice. Many problems for which task forces are recommended can be resolved through the course of normal dialogue among interested stakeholders and State representatives.

I urge all interested parties supportive of Senate Bill 153 wishing to address the important concerns regarding the health regulations of bed and breakfast operators to do so through continued dialogue and cooperation with State officials as a course of normal business. Accordingly, I believe the creation of this task force is unnecessary.

For the above stated reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill 153.

Sincerely,
Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Senate Bill No. 153

AN ACT concerning

Task Force to Study Health Regulations for Bed and Breakfast Operators

FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study Health Regulations for Bed and Breakfast Operators; providing for the composition, chairman, and staff of the Task Force; providing that the members of the Task Force may not receive compensation, but may be reimbursed for certain expenses; providing for the duties of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report to the Governor and to the General Assembly by a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Health Regulations for Bed and Breakfast Operators.

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

(a) There is a Task Force to Study Health Regulations for Bed and Breakfast Operators.

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

(1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;