

- (iv) one member of the American Federation of Teachers – Maryland;
- (v) one member of a local board of education;
- (vi) one local superintendent of schools;
- (vii) a principal of an established Maryland charter school; and
- (viii) a parent of a Maryland public charter school student.

(c) The Governor shall designate one of the members as Chairman of the Task Force.

(d) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff support for the Task Force.

(e) The Task Force shall:

(1) review House Bill 999, as originally introduced in the 1998 Session of the General Assembly, and other states' statutes relating to public charter schools;

(2) recommend legislation for consideration by the General Assembly during the 1999 Session that encompasses the findings of the Task Force and ensures that Maryland public charter schools will qualify and be competitive for federal assistance; and

(3) report its findings and recommended legislation to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly by December 1, 1998.

**Article — Education**

**TITLE 9. PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL PROGRAM.**

~~9-101.~~

~~IN THIS TITLE, "CHARTER" MEANS THE AUTHORIZATION GRANTED BY A COUNTY BOARD TO OPERATE A PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL.~~

~~9-102.~~

~~(A) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS AS PART OF THE STATE'S PROGRAM OF PUBLIC EDUCATION CAN ASSIST IN PROMOTING COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATIONAL REFORM BY PROVIDING A MECHANISM FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A VARIETY OF EDUCATIONAL APPROACHES THAT MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN THE TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL CLASSROOM.~~

~~(B) PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS OFFER THE POTENTIAL TO IMPROVE PUPIL LEARNING, INCREASE THE EDUCATIONAL CHOICES AVAILABLE FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS, ENCOURAGE THE USE OF DIFFERENT AND INNOVATIVE LEARNING METHODS, ESTABLISH A NEW FORM OF ACCOUNTABILITY FOR SCHOOL, REQUIRE~~