

(c) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall jointly select the chair of the Task Force from among its members.

(d) The State Department of Education shall provide staff for the Task Force.

(e) A member of the Task Force:

(1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

(2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(f) The Task Force shall:

(1) study methods of advancing and preserving heritage language skills in Maryland;

(2) consult with educators and other experts in the field of world language training and development;

(3) review and identify the best practices of heritage language programs that are being or will be conducted by government, schools, community groups, religious groups, and ethnic groups in the State, across the U.S., and internationally;

(4) compile data on the number of actual and potential heritage language speakers in Maryland;

(5) develop a process to identify priority heritage languages that is flexible enough to meet current and future national security and international business requirements;

(6) consider new, cost-effective, and innovative ways to encourage and facilitate heritage language learning while also encouraging new citizens of the U.S. to learn and master English; and

(7) recommend actions and programs that ensure maximum preservation of heritage language skills and identify measures of success for each.

(g) On or before January 1, 2009, the Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.