



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 186

February Session, 2002

Substitute House Bill No. 5598

House of Representatives, March 27, 2002

The Committee on Commerce reported through REP. SAMOWITZ of the 129th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY MICROENTERPRISES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to study incentives for developing microenterprises. The task force
3 shall develop a definition of microenterprise for eligibility for state
4 programs and examine issues relevant to the promotion of
5 microenterprises, including, but not limited to, insurance, taxation,
6 unemployment, small business development, shared procurement of
7 goods and services, establishment of a microenterprise economic
8 cluster and financing of microenterprises through the Office of Small
9 Business Affairs or other appropriate organizations.

10 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

11 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
12 one of whom shall operate a microenterprise and one of whom shall

13 represent an organization providing small business loans;

14 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one
15 of whom shall represent the general public and one the insurance
16 industry;

17 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
18 Representatives, who shall represent an organization providing
19 business planning and development assistance to microenterprises or
20 small businesses;

21 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall
22 represent a lending institution;

23 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
24 Representatives, who shall be involved in community economic
25 development;

26 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be
27 involved in workforce development at a community technical college;

28 (7) The Commissioners of Economic and Community Development,
29 Social Services and Revenue Services, or the commissioners' designees;
30 and

31 (8) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
32 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce.

33 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),
34 (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) or (8) of subsection (b) of this section may be a
35 member of the General Assembly.

36 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made no later than
37 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be
38 filled by the appointing authority.

39 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
40 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task
41 force, from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons

42 shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held no
43 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

44 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
45 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce
46 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

47 (g) Not later than January 1, 2003, the task force shall submit a
48 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
49 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
50 relating to commerce, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-
51 4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date
52 that it submits such report or January 1, 2003, whichever is earlier.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In section 1, the phrase "for eligibility for state programs" was inserted after "definition of microenterprise" for internal consistency.

CE *Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Fund-Type	Agency Affected	Current FY \$	FY 03 \$
GF - Cost	Legislative Mgmt.; Revenue Serv., Dept.; Econ. & Com. Development, Dept.	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill establishes a task force to study incentives for developing micro-enterprises and make recommendations to the General Assembly by January 1, 2003. The bill appoints the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, the Commissioner of Revenue Services, or their designees to serve on the task force which will minimally increase their workload within available resources. Additionally, the bill appoints a workforce development representative from the community technical colleges to serve on the task force. This has no fiscal impact on the colleges.

The bill appoints the co-chairpersons of the Commerce Committee to the task force. To the extent that members of the General Assembly are appointed to the task force, the Joint Committee on Legislative Management will incur a minimal cost. A total cost of less than \$5,000 may result from mileage reimbursement to legislators in traveling to and from panel meetings, public hearings and regional forums. Legislators are currently reimbursed 36 1/2 cents per mile. Considering that legislators may be traveling to and from the capitol on other legislative business, any additional cost due to an increased number of reimbursed trips could be handled within the anticipated budgetary

resources of the department. The bill requires the Commerce Committee staff to serve as the administrative staff for the task force, which may result in a workload reallocation.

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 5598

SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze special acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 25 Nay 0