

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2002.

Approved May 16, 2002.

CHAPTER 573

(House Bill 1431)

AN ACT concerning

Task Force to Evaluate the Development and Construction of a Magnetic Levitation Transportation System

FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Evaluate the Development and Construction of a Magnetic Levitation Transportation System; specifying the membership and duties of the Task Force; providing for the appointment of chairpersons of the Task Force; providing for staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation; authorizing a member of the Task Force to receive reimbursement for certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the establishment of a Task Force to Evaluate the Development and Construction of a Magnetic Levitation Transportation System.

Preamble

WHEREAS, The eastern seaboard of the United States constitutes the most highly developed and integrated region of the United States, which requires an effective and efficient transportation system in order to maintain and enhance its economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, The existing modes and methods of transporting people and goods are near or at capacity, suggesting the need for innovative new technology as a means of continuing and maintaining growth, development, and job creation within the region; and

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States has enacted Public Law No. 105-178, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, which authorizes the funding, in part, for deployment of a Magnetic Levitation Transportation System (Maglev) as an alternative; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Railroad Administration has approved the continued evaluation of a demonstration project for Maglev between the metropolitan areas of Baltimore and Washington; and

WHEREAS, A Task Force formed to evaluate the development and construction of a prototype Maglev system would make possible an intensive review of innovative