

General Assembly

January Session, 2021

Committee Bill No. 575

LCO No. **5377**

Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by: (PS)

AN ACT CREATING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE REGULATION OF PROFESSIONAL BONDSMEN, BAIL ENFORCEMENT AGENTS AND SURETY BAIL BOND AGENTS.

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 the regulation of professional bondsmen licensed under 3 chapter 533 of the general statutes, bail enforcement agents licensed 4 under chapter 533a of the general statutes and surety bail bond agents 5 licensed under chapter 700f of the general statutes. Such study shall 6 include, but need not be limited to, (1) an examination of the ways other 7 states regulate bondsmen, bail enforcement agents or surety bail bond 8 agents, and (2) recommendations to achieve greater accountability and 9 oversight of such bondsmen, bail enforcement agents and surety bail 10 bond agents.

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

(1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
one of whom represents a trade association of national bail insurance
companies and one of whom represents professional bondsmen, bail
enforcement agents or surety bail bond agents;

16 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of17 whom is a municipal police chief;

(3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
Representatives, who is a member of the joint standing committee of the
General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety
and security;

(4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who is a
member of the Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission
established under section 18-87j of the general statutes;

(5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
Representatives, who is a member of the Criminal Justice Commission
established under section 51-275a of the general statutes;

28 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

29 (7) The Commissioner of Correction, or the commissioner's designee;

30 (8) The Chief State's Attorney, or the Chief State's Attorney's31 designee; and

32 (9) The Chief Public Defender, or the Chief Public Defender's33 designee.

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

(d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later
than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall
be filled by the appointing authority.

(e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro
tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from
among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule
the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty
days after the effective date of this section.

- (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety
 and security shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.
- 48 (g) Not later than January 1, 2022, the task force shall submit a report
- 49 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of
- 50 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
- 51 safety and security, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
- 52 of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it
- 53 submits such report or January 1, 2022, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

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Section 1	from passage	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a task force to study the regulation of professional bondsmen, bail enforcement agents and surety bail bond agents.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. OSTEN, 19th Dist.; REP. SMITH, 48th Dist.

<u>S.B. 575</u>