

in areas where asbestos may prove to be a potential health hazard. The Task Force resolved the issue in September 1984 and concluded its work in late 1984.

EXECUTIVE/LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF A BIENNIAL BUDGET

Chairperson: H. Louis Stettler III, *Secretary of
Budget and Fiscal Planning*

Tyras S. Athey; Benjamin L. Cardin; Meyer M. Emanuel; Robert W. Hearn; William S. James; Helen L. Koss; Laurence Levitan; Edward J. Mason; Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.; R. Clayton Mitchell, Jr.; Dennis F. Rasmussen; Lawrence D. Shubnell; Melvin A. Steinberg; Mildred L. Tyssowski.

c/o Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning
Goldstein Treasury Building, 4th Floor
60 Calvert St.
Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 974-2114

The Governor established the Commission to Study the Feasibility of a Biennial Budget in August 1985.

A substantial portion of the State operating budget is devoted to funding the continuing operation of State government and nondiscretionary appropriations for programs, such as those determined by various formulas. In light of this, the Committee was asked to ascertain if executive branch development and legislative review of those items could be done more efficiently on a biennial basis. The Committee also considered whether a biennial process would enable agencies to proceed with greater knowledge in administering programs and allow both the executive and legislative branches greater opportunity for policy development.

The Committee reported its findings in December 1985.

TASK FORCE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Chairperson: Charles I. Shubin, M.D.

Vice-Chairperson: Gerald W. Winegrad

Staff: Carol J. Lawson; Frances F. May

Department of Legislative Reference

90 State Circle
Annapolis 21401

Telephone: 841-3870

The Task Force reported to the Governor in December 1983 and submitted a final report December 1985.

The Task Force recommended legislation, much of which was enacted. Task Force proposals included bills concerning investigations of reports of child abuse; payment of medical examinations of suspected abused or neglected children; custody and visitation limits for allegedly abused children; and penalties for not reporting suspected child abuse or neglect. Proposed legislation also concerned the competency of children to testify; use of closed-circuit television for testimony; criminal background checks on child care workers; and admissibility of an out-of-court statement by a victim of child abuse. In accordance with Task Force recommendation, the Governor's Council on Child Abuse and Neglect was created in 1986 within the Office of Children and Youth.

CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Chairperson: Charles H. Dorsey

Richard J. Bandelin; Kathleen O'Ferrall Friedman; Elaine M. Fromm; A. Wade Kach; David L. Levy; Kenneth M. Long, Jr.; Theresa A. Nolan; Margaret J. Pecora; Paula J. Peters; Leslie M. Pittler; Ida G. Ruben; William Schmidt; Robert B. Watts; Thomas M. Yeager.

c/o Legal Aid Bureau
714 E. Pratt St.
Baltimore 21202

Telephone: 383-4779

The Council submitted an interim report in August 1984 and a final report on November 30, 1986. The Council's final report included recommendations to improve the State child support system by the creation of a family court; the adoption of guidelines to establish child support orders; an education program to teach parental responsibility; and numerous administrative reforms.

COMMISSION ON COMPENSATION AND PERSONNEL POLICIES

Chairperson: H. Louis Stettler III, *Secretary of
Budget and Fiscal Planning*