



# House of Representatives

**File No. 708**

General Assembly

January Session, 2021

**(Reprint of File No. 347)**

Substitute House Bill No. 6606  
As Amended by House Amendment  
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner  
May 20, 2021

***AN ACT CONCERNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN DISTRESSED MUNICIPALITIES AND THE RENOVATION OF HISTORIC MIXED-USE BUILDINGS.***

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Economic and  
2 Community Development shall conduct a study relating to economic  
3 development issues affecting distressed municipalities and opportunity  
4 zones in the state. Not later than February 1, 2022, the commissioner  
5 shall submit a report on the results of such study to the joint standing  
6 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
7 relating to commerce, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a  
8 of the general statutes.

9 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to  
10 study any impediments to the renovation of historic mixed-use  
11 buildings located in municipalities, including, but not limited to,  
12 distressed municipalities in the state. The task force shall (1) examine

13 any financing tools that may assist in the renovation of such buildings  
14 and building safety codes that may be impediments to the renovation of  
15 such buildings; and (2) consider whether the state should implement a  
16 small real estate developer training program or a capacity building  
17 program.

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

19 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

20 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

21 (3) Two appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
22 Representatives;

23 (4) Two appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

24 (5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
25 Representatives;

26 (6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

27 (7) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development,  
28 or the commissioner's designee;

29 (8) The Commissioner of Housing, or the commissioner's designee;

30 (9) The Banking Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;

31 (10) The Commissioner of Administrative Services, or the  
32 commissioner's designee; and

33 (11) Three persons appointed by the Governor.

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

37 (d) Each member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),

38 (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) or (11) of subsection (b) of this section shall have  
 39 expertise in the architecture of historic properties, construction or  
 40 rehabilitation of historic properties, real estate financing, mortgage  
 41 lending, real estate development, real estate transactions or municipal  
 42 building codes.

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

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

51 (g) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
 52 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce  
 53 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

54 (h) Not later than January 1, 2022, the task force shall submit a report  
 55 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of  
 56 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
 57 commerce, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the  
 58 general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it  
 59 submits such report or January 1, 2022, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section

*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

The bill has no fiscal impact by requiring the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to conduct a study relating to economic development issues affecting distressed municipalities and opportunity zones in the state. The Department of Economic and Community Development has the expertise to complete the study without additional resources.

The bill also establishes a nineteen-member task force to study any impediments to the renovation of historic mixed-use buildings located in municipalities. There is no fiscal impact as PA 17-236 prohibits transportation allowances for task force members.

House "A" strikes the underlying bill and its associated impact and results in the impact described above.

### **The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sHB 6606 (as amended by House "A")**

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE COME HOME TO DOWNTOWN PROGRAM, THE RENOVATION OF HISTORIC MIXED-USE BUILDINGS IN THE STATE AND OUTDOOR DINING.***

**SUMMARY**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 23    Nay 0    (03/22/2021)