

SENATE BILL 412

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2000 Regular Session
01r1072

By: **Senators Hoffman and Hogan, Hogan, Lawlah, Madden, McFadden,
Munson, Ruben, and Van Hollen**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2000

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

Re-referred to: Budget and Taxation and Finance, February 15, 2000

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: April 4, 2000

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Community College Job Training Opportunity Program - Temporary**
3 **Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Community College Job Training Opportunity
5 Program; requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to administer
6 the Program; providing that the purpose of the Program is to provide funding for
7 job training advance accounts that will allow eligible individuals to pursue
8 approved job training programs at community colleges; requiring that the
9 Program be funded with money from the federal Temporary Assistance to Needy
10 Families (TANF) block grant and any other available public or private source;
11 requiring the Commission, after consulting with the Department of Business
12 and Economic Development and the Department of Labor, Licensing, and
13 Regulation, to adopt regulations that identify work-related skills and
14 occupations that are in short supply in the State and are critical to the State's
15 economic development strategy; requiring the Commission to distribute certain
16 funds to community colleges; requiring a community college to use the funds to
17 establish job training advance accounts for eligible individuals; specifying that
18 the money that is deposited in an account may be used only for certain purposes;
19 requiring the Commission to adopt any regulations that are necessary to
20 implement this Act, including regulations that establish application procedures
21 for an individual seeking to have a job training advance account established at a
22 community college; defining certain terms; and generally relating to community
23 colleges and the TANF block grant.

24 BY adding to
25 Article - Education

1 Section 18-2401 through 18-2406, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 24.
2 Community College Job Training Opportunity Program"
3 Annotated Code of Maryland
4 (1999 Replacement Volume)

5 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
6 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

7 **Article - Education**

8 SUBTITLE 24. COMMUNITY COLLEGE JOB TRAINING OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM.
9 18-2401.

10 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
11 INDICATED.

12 (B) "APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAM" MEANS A PROGRAM OF STUDY THAT
13 IS:

14 (1) OFFERED AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE; AND

15 (2) IDENTIFIED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER § 18-2403 OF THIS
16 SUBTITLE AS A PROGRAM OF STUDY THAT PROVIDES TRAINING IN A WORKPLACE
17 SKILL OR OCCUPATION THAT IS IN SHORT SUPPLY IN THE STATE AND CRITICAL TO
18 THE STATE'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY.

19 (C) "ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:

20 (1) (I) IS CURRENTLY A RECIPIENT IN A FAMILY INVESTMENT
21 PROGRAM CASE; OR

22 (II) 1. WAS A RECIPIENT IN A FAMILY INVESTMENT PROGRAM
23 CASE WITHIN 1 YEAR OF THE DATE OF APPLICATION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOB
24 TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNT UNDER THIS SUBTITLE; AND

25 2. CURRENTLY LIVES IN A HOUSEHOLD WITH AN INCOME
26 THAT IS NOT MORE THAN 200% OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL; AND

27 (2) HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE FOR
28 ENROLLMENT IN AN APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAM.

29 (D) "ELIGIBLE JOB TRAINING EXPENSES" MEANS THE COST OF:

30 (1) TUITION AND FEES THAT ARE REQUIRED FOR ENROLLMENT IN AN
31 APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAM; AND

32 (2) BOOKS, SUPPLIES, TRANSPORTATION, TUTORING, AND CHILD CARE
33 THAT ARE NECESSARY TO ALLOW AN INDIVIDUAL TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AN
34 APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAM.

1 (E) "FAMILY INVESTMENT PROGRAM" MEANS THE FAMILY INVESTMENT
2 PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER ARTICLE 88A, §§ 44A THROUGH 50 OF THE CODE.

3 (F) (1) "FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE" MEANS:

4 (I) A GRANT; OR

5 (II) ANY OTHER FORM OF CASH ASSISTANCE.

6 (2) "FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE" DOES NOT INCLUDE A LOAN.

7 (G) "JOB TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNT" MEANS AN ACCOUNT THAT IS
8 ESTABLISHED BY A COMMUNITY COLLEGE UNDER § 18-2405 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

9 (H) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE JOB TRAINING
10 OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

11 (I) "PROGRAM OF STUDY" INCLUDES A PROGRAM THAT, ON SUCCESSFUL
12 COMPLETION, RESULTS IN THE ISSUANCE OF A CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY IN A
13 SPECIFIC WORK-RELATED SKILL OR OCCUPATION.

14 (J) "RECIPIENT" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN ARTICLE 88A, § 44A(J) OF THE
15 CODE.

16 (K) "SUPPLIES" MEANS ANY EQUIPMENT, TOOL, INSTRUMENT, OR OTHER
17 ITEM THAT IS NECESSARY FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF AN APPROVED JOB
18 TRAINING PROGRAM.

19 (L) "TANF MONEY" MEANS MONEY THAT IS INCLUDED IN THE TEMPORARY
20 ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) BLOCK GRANT THAT IS RECEIVED FROM
21 THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

22 18-2402.

23 (A) THERE IS A COMMUNITY COLLEGE JOB TRAINING OPPORTUNITY
24 PROGRAM.

25 (B) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.

26 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR JOB
27 TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNTS THAT WILL ALLOW ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS TO
28 PURSUE APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS AT COMMUNITY COLLEGES.

29 (D) THE PROGRAM SHALL BE FUNDED, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET,
30 WITH:

31 (1) TANF MONEY; AND

32 (2) MONEY FROM ANY OTHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SOURCE.

1 18-2403.

2 (A) AFTER CONSULTING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND
3 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING, AND
4 REGULATION, THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS NO LATER THAN
5 SEPTEMBER 1, 2000, THAT IDENTIFY:

6 (1) THE WORK-RELATED SKILLS AND OCCUPATIONS THAT ARE IN
7 SHORT SUPPLY IN THE STATE AND CRITICAL TO THE STATE'S ECONOMIC
8 DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY; AND

9 (2) APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS.

10 (B) ANNUALLY, NO LATER THAN JULY 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSION
11 SHALL UPDATE THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS
12 SECTION.

13 18-2404.

14 (A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, AT THE BEGINNING OF
15 EACH FISCAL YEAR, THE COMMISSION SHALL DISTRIBUTE TO EACH COMMUNITY
16 COLLEGE IN THE STATE AN AMOUNT THAT IS EQUAL TO THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF
17 MONEY THAT IS ALLOCATED TO THE PROGRAM IN THE STATE BUDGET MULTIPLIED
18 BY THE RATIO OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS ACCEPTED FOR ENROLLMENT IN
19 APPROVED PROGRAMS AT THAT PARTICULAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO THE TOTAL
20 NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS ACCEPTED FOR ENROLLMENT IN APPROVED
21 PROGRAMS AT COMMUNITY COLLEGES THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

22 (B) THE COMMISSION MAY USE MONEY THAT IS ALLOCATED TO THE
23 PROGRAM IN THE STATE BUDGET TO PAY FOR THE COST OF ADMINISTERING THE
24 PROGRAM.

25 18-2405.

26 (A) A COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL USE MONEY THAT IS DISTRIBUTED TO IT
27 UNDER § 18-2404 OF THIS SUBTITLE TO ESTABLISH JOB TRAINING ADVANCE
28 ACCOUNTS FOR ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.

29 (B) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTIONS (C) AND (D) OF THIS SECTION, A JOB TRAINING
30 ADVANCE ACCOUNT SHALL BE USED TO PAY FOR ELIGIBLE JOB TRAINING
31 EXPENSES.

32 (C) IF THERE IS ANOTHER SOURCE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THAT IS
33 AVAILABLE TO AN ELIGIBLE PERSON TO COVER ELIGIBLE JOB TRAINING EXPENSES,
34 MONEY THAT IS DEPOSITED IN A JOB TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNT MAY NOT BE
35 USED TO PAY FOR THE ELIGIBLE JOB TRAINING EXPENSES.

36 (D) MONEY THAT IS DEPOSITED IN A JOB TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNT MAY
37 NOT BE USED TO PAY FOR ELIGIBLE JOB TRAINING EXPENSES UNLESS THE ELIGIBLE

1 INDIVIDUAL FIRST APPLIES FOR AND RECEIVES A DECISION REGARDING ANY
2 AVAILABLE STATE OR FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

3 (E) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO APPLIES TO A COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO HAVE A JOB
4 TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNT ESTABLISHED SHALL SUBMIT ANY DOCUMENTATION
5 REQUIRED BY THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO ESTABLISH THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS
6 AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL AS DEFINED IN § 18-2401(C) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

7 (F) DEPENDING ON THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT IS DISTRIBUTED TO A
8 COMMUNITY COLLEGE UNDER § 18-2404 OF THIS SUBTITLE IN A PARTICULAR FISCAL
9 YEAR, A COMMUNITY COLLEGE MAY ESTABLISH LIMITS ON:

10 (1) THE NUMBER OF JOB TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNTS THAT MAY BE
11 ESTABLISHED THAT YEAR; AND

12 (2) THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT MAY BE DEPOSITED IN A JOB
13 TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNT THAT YEAR.

14 (G) A COMMUNITY COLLEGE THAT RECEIVES MONEY UNDER THIS SUBTITLE
15 TO ESTABLISH JOB TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNTS SHALL:

16 (1) ASSIST INDIVIDUALS WHO PURSUE APPROVED JOB TRAINING
17 PROGRAMS IN OBTAINING EMPLOYMENT UPON COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM;

18 (2) MONITOR AND COLLECT DATA REGARDING:

19 (I) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO SUCCESSFULLY
20 COMPLETE AN APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAM;

21 (II) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO OBTAIN EMPLOYMENT
22 AFTER COMPLETING AN APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAM AND THE WAGES THAT
23 ARE RECEIVED BY THESE INDIVIDUALS; AND

24 (III) THE EXTENT TO WHICH INDIVIDUALS WHO OBTAIN
25 EMPLOYMENT AFTER PURSUING APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS RETAIN
26 EMPLOYMENT UPON COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM; AND

27 (3) SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE COMMISSION NO LATER THAN OCTOBER
28 31 OF EACH YEAR THAT SUMMARIZES THE INFORMATION COLLECTED UNDER
29 PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

30 18-2406.

31 (A) IN ADDITION TO THE REGULATIONS THAT ARE ADOPTED UNDER § 18-2403
32 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT, NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1,
33 2000, ANY REGULATIONS THAT ARE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBTITLE,
34 INCLUDING REGULATIONS THAT ESTABLISH APPLICATION PROCEDURES TO BE
35 FOLLOWED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO SEEKS TO HAVE A JOB TRAINING ADVANCE
36 ACCOUNT ESTABLISHED BY A COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

1 (B) (1) BY DECEMBER 31 OF EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT A
2 REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH §
3 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS
4 SUBTITLE.

5 (2) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION, AS
6 DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION, THE REPORT SHALL SPECIFY:

7 (I) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE APPLIED TO A
8 COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOB TRAINING ADVANCE
9 ACCOUNT IN THAT CALENDAR YEAR;

10 (II) THE NUMBER OF JOB TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNTS THAT
11 HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED BY A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THAT CALENDAR YEAR;
12 ~~AND~~

13 (III) THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE PURSUING
14 APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH THESE
15 INDIVIDUALS ARE SUCCEEDING IN THE PROGRAMS;

16 (IV) THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE
17 SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED AN APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAM;

18 (V) THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE OBTAINED
19 EMPLOYMENT AFTER COMPLETING AN APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAM AND
20 THE WAGES THAT ARE RECEIVED BY THESE INDIVIDUALS; AND

21 (VI) THE EXTENT TO WHICH ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS WHO OBTAIN
22 EMPLOYMENT AFTER PURSUING APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS RETAIN
23 EMPLOYMENT UPON COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 July 1, 2000.