
By: **Delegates Moe, Bozman, Busch, G. Clagett, Conway, Costa, DeBoy,
Donoghue, Franchot, Glassman, Hurson, Leopold, Malone, McHale,
Parrott, Rudolph, Stull, F. Turner, and Weir**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2005

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education - Firefighters and Ambulance and Rescue Squad Members**
3 **- Tuition Assistance**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that certain firefighters and
5 ambulance and rescue squad members be residents of the State to receive
6 certain tuition assistance for courses credited toward a certain degree;
7 requiring, as a condition for receiving tuition assistance, a certain minimum
8 average number of hours per week of service; and generally relating to tuition
9 assistance for firefighters and ambulance and rescue squad members.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article - Education
12 Section 18-603
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

17 **Article - Education**

18 18-603.

19 (a) There is a program of tuition assistance under this section.

20 (b) Any career or volunteer firefighter, ambulance or rescue squad member
21 [who is a resident of Maryland] shall receive full and complete reimbursement by the
22 Office for tuition costs not to exceed the resident tuition rates at the 4-year public
23 institution of higher education within the University System of Maryland, other than
24 the University of Maryland University College and University of Maryland,
25 Baltimore, with the highest annual expenses for a full-time resident undergraduate,
26 for courses credited toward a degree in fire service technology or emergency medical
27 technology.

1 (c) (1) The tuition reimbursement application shall be filed with the Office
2 no later than July 1 immediately following the academic year for which tuition
3 reimbursement is sought.

4 (2) Payment shall be made 1 year after successful completion of each
5 academic year.

6 (3) Payment may be made only if the applicant is still employed or
7 actively engaged FOR A MINIMUM OF 20 HOURS PER WEEK ON AVERAGE as a career or
8 volunteer firefighter or ambulance or rescue squad member in an organized fire
9 department or ambulance or rescue squad in this State.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
11 July 1, 2005.