
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

Committee Report: Favorable
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 1, 2005

CHAPTER _____

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.

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

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

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

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

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