

SENATE BILL 647

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CF 3lr1044

By: **Senators Montgomery, Benson, Colburn, Madaleno, Shank, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2013

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education and Health Occupations – Nurse Midwifery Program –**
3 **Study**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the University of Maryland, Baltimore, in cooperation
5 with the Maryland Higher Education Commission, the Johns Hopkins School of
6 Nursing, and the State Board of Nursing, to conduct a certain study and make
7 certain recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly on or
8 before a certain date regarding certain nurse midwifery programs; and
9 generally relating to a study of nurse midwifery programs.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That:

12 (a) The University of Maryland, Baltimore, in cooperation with the Maryland
13 Higher Education Commission, the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, and the State
14 Board of Nursing, shall:

15 (1) conduct a study regarding the obstacles and barriers to
16 establishing additional nurse midwifery programs in the State; and

17 (2) make recommendations on how to overcome these obstacles and
18 barriers.

19 (b) The study conducted under subsection (a)(1) of this section shall include:

20 (1) an exploration of a distance education model for training nurse
21 midwives in the State, including the option of in-State tuition for out-of-state
22 distance education courses;

23 (2) a plan for a marketing and outreach campaign that would attract
24 interested students to the program;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (3) a process by which the program would facilitate the identification
2 and placement of students in appropriate clinical practice sites;

3 (4) a description of the allocation or reallocation of resources necessary
4 to fully fund the program; and

5 (5) the feasibility and advisability of a State scholarship or loan
6 forgiveness program for midwives who work in shortage areas after graduation.

7 (c) On or before December 1, 2013, the University of Maryland, Baltimore
8 shall report to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee,
9 the House Health and Government Operations Committee, and the House Committee
10 on Ways and Means, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on
11 the results of the study and the recommendations required under subsection (a) of this
12 section.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 July 1, 2013.