

HOUSE BILL 779

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5lr1218
CF SB 816

By: **Delegates A. Washington, Campos, Ebersole, Fennell, Hornberger, Metzgar, Patterson, Platt, Tarlau, and Valderrama**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2015

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education – Low–Income Student Outreach and College Access Act of**
3 **2015**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Low–Income Student Outreach and College Access
5 Pilot Program targeting low–income Maryland high school graduates; establishing
6 certain purposes of the Program; requiring the Maryland Higher Education
7 Commission to administer the Program and perform certain duties; establishing
8 certain eligibility requirements for participation in the Program; requiring certain
9 actions from nonprofit organizations that receive Program funding; requiring the
10 Commission to submit a summary report on the Program on or before certain dates;
11 requiring the Governor to make an appropriation in the State budget for the
12 Commission for a certain purpose; providing for the termination of this Act; and
13 generally relating to the Low–Income Student Outreach and College Access Pilot
14 Program.

15 BY adding to
16 Article – Education
17 Section 11–1101 through 11–1107 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 11.
18 Low–Income Student Outreach and College Access Pilot Program”
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

23 **Article – Education**

24 **SUBTITLE 11. LOW–INCOME STUDENT OUTREACH AND COLLEGE ACCESS PILOT**
25 **PROGRAM.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 11-1101.

2 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
3 INDICATED.

4 (B) "NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION" MEANS AN ORGANIZATION THAT IS
5 EXEMPT OR ELIGIBLE FOR EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION UNDER § 501(C)(3) OF THE
6 INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.

7 (C) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE LOW-INCOME STUDENT OUTREACH AND
8 COLLEGE ACCESS PILOT PROGRAM.

9 11-1102.

10 THERE IS A LOW-INCOME STUDENT OUTREACH AND COLLEGE ACCESS
11 PILOT PROGRAM.

12 11-1103.

13 THE PURPOSES OF THE PROGRAM ARE TO:

14 (1) ENCOURAGE LOW-INCOME MARYLAND HIGH SCHOOL
15 GRADUATES TO ATTEND AND COMPLETE COLLEGE;

16 (2) CONNECT POTENTIAL COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
17 WITH NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE A HISTORY OF SUCCESSFUL HIGHER
18 EDUCATION OUTCOMES FOR TARGETED YOUTH;

19 (3) CREATE AN EQUAL MATCHING FUND FOR NONPROFIT
20 ORGANIZATIONS TO ACCESS IN ORDER TO INCREASE COLLEGE OUTREACH SERVICES
21 TO LOW-INCOME STUDENTS;

22 (4) PROVIDE FUNDING FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE
23 ALREADY ESTABLISHED IN COMMUNITIES TO PROVIDE TARGETED OUTREACH TO
24 ENCOURAGE LOW-INCOME STUDENTS TO ENROLL IN COLLEGE; AND

25 (5) ESTABLISH A 2-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM TO DETERMINE IF THE
26 PROGRAM CAN LEAD TO AN INCREASE IN LOW-INCOME STUDENTS ATTENDING AND
27 SUCCEEDING IN COLLEGE.

28 11-1104.

1 **(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.**

2 **(B) TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THE PROGRAM, THE COMMISSION**
3 **SHALL:**

4 **(1) ESTABLISH A GRANT PROGRAM TO BE PUBLISHED ON THE**
5 **COMMISSION'S WEB SITE THROUGH WHICH NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS MAY**
6 **LEARN ABOUT ELIGIBILITY, APPLICATION, AND COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS AND**
7 **APPLY FOR FUNDING AS PROVIDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE;**

8 **(2) DEVELOP APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS AND REVIEW AND**
9 **APPROVE APPLICATIONS;**

10 **(3) DEVELOP A PROCESS FOR VERIFYING THAT MATCHING FUNDS**
11 **ARE AVAILABLE; AND**

12 **(4) ALLOCATE FUNDING TO APPROVED NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**
13 **ON A COMPETITIVE BASIS.**

14 **11-1105.**

15 **(A) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM, A NONPROFIT**
16 **ORGANIZATION SHALL:**

17 **(1) BE LOCATED IN THE STATE;**

18 **(2) HAVE A CONTRACT OR MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH**
19 **A LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM OR AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION OR MUST**
20 **ESTABLISH ONE IF ONE DOES NOT EXIST; AND**

21 **(3) DEMONSTRATE AN EQUAL MATCH FOR FUNDS REQUESTED.**

22 **(B) A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT RECEIVES FUNDING THROUGH THE**
23 **PROGRAM SHALL:**

24 **(1) SUBMIT DATA ON OUTREACH PROGRAMS;**

25 **(2) TRACK STUDENT PROGRESS THROUGH THE HIGHER EDUCATION**
26 **SYSTEM; AND**

27 **(3) SUBMIT ANNUAL REPORTS TO THE COMMISSION ON OR BEFORE**
28 **OCTOBER 1 FOLLOWING THE FISCAL YEAR IN WHICH FUNDS WERE RECEIVED.**

1 **11-1106.**

2 (A) **THE COMMISSION SHALL PREPARE A REPORT ON THE PROGRAM THAT**
3 **INCLUDES:**

4 (1) **A SUMMARY OF THE REPORTS RECEIVED REGARDING THE**
5 **PROGRAM;**

6 (2) **THE AMOUNT OF FUNDS DISTRIBUTED EACH FISCAL YEAR; AND**

7 (3) **IF AN ELIGIBLE WAIT LIST EXISTS, THE NUMBER OF NONPROFIT**
8 **ORGANIZATIONS ON THE WAIT LIST.**

9 (B) **ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2017, AND DECEMBER 1, 2018, THE**
10 **COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT A COPY OF THE REPORT REQUIRED UNDER**
11 **SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE**
12 **WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.**

13 **11-1107.**

14 **BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2017, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE \$500,000**
15 **IN THE ANNUAL STATE BUDGET FOR THE COMMISSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE**
16 **PROGRAM.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2015. It shall remain effective for a period of 4 years and, at the end of September
19 30, 2019, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
20 abrogated and of no further force and effect.