

SENATE BILL 41

F2

5r0568
CF 5r0567

By: **Senator Ferguson**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2015

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 27, 2015

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education – Nancy Grasmick Teacher Award – Eligibility**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain public school teachers in the State who earned
4 certain degrees from certain out-of-state institutions of higher education to be
5 eligible for a Nancy Grasmick Teacher Award under certain circumstances; requiring
6 the Office of Student Financial Assistance in the Maryland Higher Education
7 Commission to give certain individuals priority in providing certain repayment
8 assistance; making stylistic changes; and generally relating to eligibility for the
9 Nancy Grasmick Teacher Award.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – Education
12 Section 18–1502(b) and (c)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Education**

18 18–1502.

19 (b) **(1)** The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall assist in the
20 repayment of the amount of any higher education loan owed by an individual who:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 [(1)] (i) 1. Receives a graduate, professional, or undergraduate
2 degree from:

3 [1.] A. [A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2)
4 OF THIS SUBSECTION, A college or university in the State [of Maryland]; or

5 [2.] B. A school of law; or

6 [(ii)] 2. Receives a Resident Teacher Certificate (RTC) from the
7 Department after completing an alternative teaching preparation program approved by the
8 State Superintendent;

9 [(2)] (II) Obtains eligible employment;

10 [(3)] (III) Receives an income that is less than the maximum eligible total
11 income levels established by the Office, including any additional sources of income; and

12 [(4)] (IV) Satisfies any other criteria established by the Office.

13 (2) A PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER IN THE STATE WHO RECEIVES A
14 GRADUATE, PROFESSIONAL, OR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE FROM A COLLEGE OR
15 UNIVERSITY OUT OF THE STATE MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE
16 UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE DEGREE WAS EARNED AT ~~A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY~~
17 ~~THAT HAS A CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL OR OTHER COMPARABLE AUTHORIZATION~~
18 ~~FROM THE HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY OR COORDINATING BOARD IN THE~~
19 ~~STATE IN WHICH THE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY IS LOCATED~~ AN ACCREDITED
20 COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY LOCATED OUT OF THE STATE.

21 (3) THE OFFICE SHALL GIVE MARYLAND RESIDENTS PRIORITY IN
22 PROVIDING REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE UNDER THIS SECTION.

23 (c) Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, the Office shall assist
24 in the repayment of the amount of any higher education loan owed by a public school
25 teacher in the State who:

26 (1) Has taught in [Maryland] **THE STATE** for at least 2 years:

27 (i) In science, technology, engineering, or math subjects; or

28 (ii) In a school in which at least 75% of the students are enrolled in
29 the free and reduced lunch program in the State; and

30 (2) Has received the highest performance evaluation rating for the most
31 recent year available in the county in which the teacher taught.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
2 1, 2015.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.