

HOUSE BILL 1288

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6lr3103

By: **Delegates P. Young and M. Washington**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2016

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education – Tuition Waivers for Foster Care Recipients and**
3 **Unaccompanied Homeless Youth**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that certain foster care recipients and
5 certain unaccompanied homeless youth must be a certain candidate for certain
6 certificate or degree programs in order to receive a certain tuition waiver; and
7 generally relating to tuition waivers for foster care recipients and unaccompanied
8 homeless youth.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Education
11 Section 15–106.1(c)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Education**

17 15–106.1.

18 (c) (1) A foster care recipient or an unaccompanied homeless youth is exempt
19 from paying any tuition at a public institution of higher education, regardless of that foster
20 care recipient's or unaccompanied homeless youth's receipt of any scholarship or grant if:

21 (i) The foster care recipient or unaccompanied homeless youth is
22 enrolled at the institution on or before the date that the foster care recipient or
23 unaccompanied homeless youth reaches the age of 25 years; AND

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) [The foster care recipient or unaccompanied homeless youth is
2 enrolled as a candidate for a vocational certificate, an associate's degree, or a bachelor's
3 degree; and

4 (iii) The foster care recipient or unaccompanied homeless youth has
5 filed for federal and State financial aid by March 1 each year.

6 (2) If a foster care recipient or an unaccompanied homeless youth receives
7 a scholarship or grant for postsecondary study and is enrolled before the recipient's 25th
8 birthday [as a candidate for a vocational certificate, an associate's degree, or bachelor's
9 degree] at a public institution of higher education, the scholarship or grant may not be
10 applied to the tuition for the foster care recipient or unaccompanied homeless youth.

11 (3) A foster care recipient or an unaccompanied homeless youth who is
12 exempt from tuition under this section continues to be exempt until the earlier of:

13 (i) 5 years after first enrolling [as a candidate for an associate's
14 degree or a bachelor's degree] at a public institution of higher education in the State; or

15 (ii) The date that the foster care recipient or unaccompanied
16 homeless youth is awarded a bachelor's degree.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
18 1, 2016.