

# SENATE BILL 606

P1, F2

6lr3186  
CF HB 1458

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By: **Senator Waugh**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2016

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 17, 2016

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland College Collaboration for Student Veterans Commission**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland College Collaboration for Student Veterans  
4 Commission; providing for the membership and appointment and terms of members  
5 of the Commission; requiring the Commission to elect the chair, vice chair, and  
6 secretary each year; requiring the Commission to meet a certain number of times  
7 each year; providing that a member of the Commission may not receive certain  
8 compensation, but may receive reimbursement for certain expenses under certain  
9 regulations; providing for the duties of the Commission; and generally relating to the  
10 Maryland College Collaboration for Student Veterans Commission.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – State Government

13 Section 9–949 through 9–954 to be under the new part “Part VII. Maryland College  
14 Collaboration for Student Veterans Commission”

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – State Government**

20 **9–947. RESERVED.**

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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 **9-948. RESERVED.**

2 **PART VII. MARYLAND COLLEGE COLLABORATION FOR STUDENT VETERANS**  
3 **COMMISSION.**

4 **9-949.**

5 (A) IN THIS PART THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
6 INDICATED.

7 (B) "COLLEGE COLLABORATION" MEANS THE MARYLAND COLLEGE  
8 COLLABORATION FOR STUDENT VETERANS, MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
9 BETWEEN THE STATE AND MARYLAND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
10 DATED JANUARY 31, 2011.

11 (C) "COMMISSION" MEANS THE MARYLAND COLLEGE COLLABORATION  
12 FOR STUDENT VETERANS COMMISSION.

13 **9-950.**

14 **THERE IS A MARYLAND COLLEGE COLLABORATION FOR STUDENT VETERANS**  
15 **COMMISSION IN THE DEPARTMENT.**

16 **9-951.**

17 (A) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

18 (1) THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, OR THE SECRETARY'S  
19 DESIGNEE;

20 (2) THE SECRETARY OF HIGHER EDUCATION, OR THE SECRETARY'S  
21 DESIGNEE; ~~AND~~

22 (3) THE CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND,  
23 OR THE CHANCELLOR'S DESIGNEE;

24 (4) THE PRESIDENT OF THE MARYLAND INDEPENDENT COLLEGE  
25 AND UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATION, OR THE PRESIDENT'S DESIGNEE;

26 (5) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF  
27 COMMUNITY COLLEGES, OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE; AND

28 ~~(3)~~ (6) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF ANY INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
29 EDUCATION IN THE STATE THAT ELECTS TO PARTICIPATE.

1           **(B) THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE**  
2 **INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (A)(6) OF THIS**  
3 **SECTION FROM A LIST OF THREE QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS SUBMITTED TO THE**  
4 **GOVERNOR BY THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SEEKING TO BE**  
5 **REPRESENTED ON THE COMMISSION.**

6           **(C) (1) THE TERM OF A MEMBER IS 2 YEARS.**

7                   **(2) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL**  
8 **A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.**

9 **9-952.**

10           **THE COMMISSION SHALL ELECT ANNUALLY A CHAIR, A VICE CHAIR, AND A**  
11 **SECRETARY FROM AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION.**

12 **9-953.**

13           **(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL MEET AT LEAST FOUR TIMES EACH YEAR.**

14           **(B) A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION:**

15                   **(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE**  
16 **COMMISSION; BUT**

17                   **(2) MAY RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE**  
18 **STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.**

19 **9-954.**

20           **THE COMMISSION SHALL:**

21                   **(1) WORK TO ENSURE THE EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS OF RETURNING**  
22 **VETERANS, INCLUDING THEIR RECRUITMENT, SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION INTO**  
23 **HIGHER EDUCATION, RETENTION, AND EVENTUAL GRADUATION;**

24                   **(2) FACILITATE THE SHARING OF BEST PRACTICES AMONG**  
25 **INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND STATE AGENCIES REGARDING**  
26 **ACADEMIC TRANSITION PROGRAMS AND SUPPORT SERVICES DESIGNED FOR**  
27 **RETURNING VETERANS;**

28                   **(3) WORK WITH INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE**  
29 **TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING SERVICES TO VETERANS, AS SET FORTH IN THE**  
30 **COLLEGE COLLABORATION:**

1 (I) AWARENESS OF VETERAN REINTEGRATION CHALLENGES;

2 (II) COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION OF AVAILABLE  
3 VETERAN SERVICES;

4 (III) A DESIGNATED "ONE DOOR" OFFICE THAT COORDINATES  
5 VETERAN SERVICES AND SUPPORTS;

6 (IV) BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES;

7 (V) FINANCIAL AID AND GI BILL SUPPORT SERVICES; AND

8 (VI) PEER SUPPORT GROUPS; ~~AND~~

9 (4) PUBLISH AN ANNUAL REPORT AND ANY OTHER MATERIAL THE  
10 COMMISSION CONSIDERS NECESSARY; AND

11 (5) SUBMIT THE ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN  
12 ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THIS ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
14 October 1, 2016.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.