

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2017 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

Senate Bill 7

(Senator Pinsky)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Appropriations and Ways and Means

Governor's P-20 Leadership Council - College and Career Readiness and College Completion Reporting - Revisions

This bill requires the Governor's P-20 Leadership Council of Maryland to include additional information in its biennial report regarding the implementation of college and career readiness and college completion strategies by the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) related to (1) transfer of students and (2) near completer initiatives. The bill also repeals an obsolete reporting requirement.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill codifies existing practice and, thus, has no fiscal or operational impact on MHEC or other staff of the Governor's P-20 Leadership Council of Maryland.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: The Governor's P-20 Leadership Council of Maryland is a partnership between the State, educators, and the business community to better prepare Maryland students for the jobs of the twenty-first century while enhancing the State's economic competitiveness by creating a workforce with twenty-first century skills. An executive committee of the council must direct the council in its work. The executive committee consists of the following six members: the Governor or the Governor's designee; the Secretary of Higher Education; the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and

Regulation; the Secretary of Commerce; the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland; and the State Superintendent of Schools. The members of the executive committee must provide primary staff support necessary for the council.

Beginning December 1, 2014, and every two years thereafter, the Governor's P-20 Leadership Council of Maryland must report to the Governor and the General Assembly on the progress of implementing specified college and career readiness and college completion strategies enacted in Chapter 533 of 2013, the College and Career Readiness and College Completion Act of 2013. These strategies include curriculum and other high school graduation requirements, two- and four-year degree plans, pathway systems to college graduation, financial aid dedicated to community college transfer students, the standard number of transfer credits for degrees, and the dual enrollment grant program.

Among other provisions, Chapter 533 required MHEC to develop and implement specified transfer agreements between the public segments of postsecondary education (including reverse transfer) and a statewide communication campaign and incentive plan targeted to help "near completers" earn a degree. Even though not required, MHEC advises it has previously included this information in the past two P-20 Council [reports](#) on college and career readiness and college completion. Therefore, the requirement to report on these items has no fiscal or operational impact on MHEC or other staff of the Governor's P-20 Leadership Council of Maryland.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Higher Education Commission; Maryland Independent College and University Association; Baltimore City Community College; St. Mary's College of Maryland; University System of Maryland; Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; Department of Legislative Services

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