

# HOUSE BILL 605

F2

(8lr0373)

## ENROLLED BILL

— Ways and Means/Finance —

Introduced by **Delegates Kaiser, Ali, Barkley, Barve, Clippinger, Ebersole, Gibson, Hill, Hixson, C. Howard, Jalisi, Lam, R. Lewis, Lierman, Luedtke, McIntosh, Moon, Pendergrass, Stein, Turner, M. Washington, Wilkins, K. Young, and P. Young**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker.

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

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Student Loan Refinancing Program – Market-Specific Consultant Study**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Health and Higher Educational Facilities  
4 Authority to engage an outside consultant within a certain period of time to conduct  
5 a market-specific study to make certain determinations related to a State student  
6 loan refinancing program; requiring the study to examine certain areas; requiring  
7 the consultant to report to the Authority within a certain period of time and requiring  
8 the report to include certain elements; requiring the Governor to appropriate a  
9 certain amount in a certain fiscal year to fund the study if a certain condition is not  
10 met; requiring the Authority to review the consultant’s report and to make certain  
11 comments or recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly  
12 within a certain period of time; providing for the termination of this Act; and

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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.

*Italics* indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 generally relating to a market-specific consultant study for a State student loan  
2 refinancing program.

3 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
4 That:

5 (a) No later than 2 months after receipt of the funding specified in subsection (c)  
6 of this section, the Maryland Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority shall  
7 engage an outside consultant to conduct a market-specific study to determine the costs of,  
8 demand for, and long-term viability of a State student loan refinancing program in  
9 Maryland.

10 (b) (1) The market-specific study conducted by the consultant shall examine  
11 all of the areas recommended in the report published in October 2017 entitled "Student  
12 Loan Refinancing in Maryland: Findings and Recommendations Related to the Advisability  
13 of Establishing a State Student Loan Refinancing Program", including:

14 (i) a cost analysis;

15 (ii) a demand analysis;

16 (iii) an analysis of the competitive landscape of the student loan  
17 refinancing marketplace;

18 (iv) the potential savings borrowers might realize and the potential  
19 economic impact on the State; and

20 (v) the financial implications of establishing a direct student loan  
21 program in addition to a student loan refinancing program.

22 (2) (i) Not later than 3 months after being engaged by the Maryland  
23 Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority to conduct the market-specific study,  
24 the consultant shall report to the Authority on each of the areas the study is required to  
25 examine.

26 (ii) The consultant's report shall include:

27 1. information on and analysis of each of the areas the study  
28 is required to examine;

29 2. a description of the methodologies used in the study; and

30 3. findings and recommendations regarding each of the areas  
31 the study is required to examine.

32 (c) If the annual budget bill for fiscal year 2019 does not include an appropriation  
33 of \$250,000 to the Maryland Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority to fund

1 the market-specific consultant study required under subsection (a) of this section, the  
2 Governor shall include in the annual budget bill for fiscal year 2020 an appropriation of  
3 \$250,000 for that purpose.

4 (d) Not later than 30 days after receiving the consultant’s report, the Maryland  
5 Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority shall:

6 (1) review the consultant’s report, including the consultant’s analysis,  
7 methodology, findings, and recommendations; and

8 (2) make comments or recommendations related to the report, including  
9 the advisability of establishing a State student loan refinancing program, to the Senate  
10 Budget and Taxation Committee ~~and, the Senate Finance Committee,~~ the House Committee  
11 on Ways and Means, and the House Economic Matters Committee in accordance with §  
12 2-1246 of the State Government Article.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
14 1, 2018. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 1 month and, at the end of June  
15 30, 2020, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be  
16 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.