Chapter 474

(House Bill 689)

AN ACT concerning

Community Colleges - Veterans Advisors and Veterans Resource Centers - Established

Colonel Todd J. Hixson Memorial Resource Center Act

FOR the purpose of requiring certain community colleges to ensure certain advisors are trained on certain needs and resources available to certain students, to employ a veterans advisor certain employee to provide enrollment and advising services to certain students, and to establish a veterans resource center; and generally relating to veterans advisors and veterans resource centers at community colleges.

BY adding to

Article – Education

Section 16-109

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

Article - Education

16-109.

EACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL:

- (1) ENSURE ALL STUDENT ADVISORS ARE TRAINED ON THE UNIQUE NEEDS AND RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE VETERANS;
- (2) EMPLOY AT LEAST ONE FULL-TIME VETERANS ADVISOR TO PROVIDE EMPLOYEE WHO, AS A COMPONENT OF THE EMPLOYEE'S JOB DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES, PROVIDES COMPREHENSIVE AND INTENSIVE ENROLLMENT AND ADVISING SERVICES TO CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS WHO ARE VETERANS; AND
- (2) (3) ESTABLISH A VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER ON CAMPUS TO:
- (I) PROVIDE ACCESS TO FEDERAL AND STATE VETERANS RESOURCES;

- (II) SERVE AS A QUIET PLACE FOR VETERANS TO STUDY;
- (III) ENABLE VETERANS TO CONNECT TO OTHER VETERANS, HELPING THEM RENEW THE BONDS OF MILITARY SERVICE; AND
- (IV) BE THE CENTRAL HUB FOR ALL ACTIVITIES ON CAMPUS RELATED TO VETERANS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2018.

Approved by the Governor, May 8, 2018.