

HOUSE BILL 318

F2

0lr1456
CF SB 667

By: **Delegates Stewart, Barron, Boyce, Carr, Charkoudian, Ebersole, Feldmark, Hettleman, Kerr, Lierman, Love, Moon, Palakovich Carr, Shetty, Solomon, Terrasa, Wells, and Wilkins**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2020

Assigned to: Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 8, 2020

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **University System of Maryland – Textbooks – Availability of Free or Low-Cost**
3 **Digital Materials**
4 **(Textbook Transparency Act of 2020)**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring each constituent institution of higher education in the
6 University System of Maryland to develop a method to clearly and conspicuously
7 show students in the online course catalog which courses use free or low-cost digital
8 materials and may provide access to certain low-cost print materials; providing that
9 certain free or low-cost digital materials include certain resources and be equally
10 accessible and usable by individuals with disabilities, ~~to the extent practicable;~~
11 providing for a delayed effective date; and generally relating to free or low-cost
12 digital materials in higher education courses.

13 BY adding to
14 Article – Education
15 Section 12-114.2
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Education**

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 12-114.2.

2 (A) EACH CONSTITUENT INSTITUTION SHALL DEVELOP A METHOD TO
3 CLEARLY AND CONSPICUOUSLY SHOW IN THE ONLINE COURSE ~~CATALOG~~
4 SCHEDULING APPLICATION WHICH COURSES:

5 (1) PROVIDE STUDENTS ACCESS TO ALL REQUIRED COURSE
6 MATERIALS IN THE FORM OF FREE OR LOW-COST DIGITAL MATERIALS; AND

7 (2) MAY PROVIDE STUDENTS ACCESS TO COURSE MATERIALS WITH A
8 LOW-COST PRINT OPTION AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO FREE OR LOW-COST DIGITAL
9 MATERIALS.

10 (B) THE FREE OR LOW-COST DIGITAL MATERIALS UNDER SUBSECTION (A)
11 OF THIS SECTION:

12 (1) ~~MAY~~ SHALL, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, INCLUDE OPENLY
13 LICENSED EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES; AND

14 (2) SHALL, ~~TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE,~~ BE EQUALLY ACCESSIBLE
15 TO AND INDEPENDENTLY USABLE BY INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
17 1, ~~2020~~ 2021.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.