

Chapter 213

(House Bill 1268)

AN ACT concerning

Legal Education Success Collaborative – Established

FOR the purpose of establishing a Legal Education Success Collaborative; establishing the purpose of the Collaborative; requiring certain institutions to develop and administer certain programs and cooperatives; requiring certain appropriations to be made to certain institutions and programs in certain fiscal years for certain purposes; *requiring certain institutions to provide certain matching funds*; requiring a certain appropriation to be used to supplement certain existing funding; defining certain terms; and generally relating to success in legal education.

BY adding to

Article – Education

Section 15–126

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

15–126.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “COLLABORATIVE” MEANS THE LEGAL EDUCATION SUCCESS COLLABORATIVE.

(3) “MARYLAND HBCU” MEANS THE FOLLOWING HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES:

(I) BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY;

(II) COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY;

(III) MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY; AND

(IV) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE.

(4) “SCHOLARS PROGRAM” MEANS:

(I) THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE SCHOOL OF LAW AND HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES STUDENT PIPELINE COOPERATIVE SCHOLARS; AND

(II) THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF LAW DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION SCHOLARS.

(5) “UB LAW AND HBCU COOPERATIVE” MEANS THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE SCHOOL OF LAW AND HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES STUDENT PIPELINE COOPERATIVE.

(B) THERE IS A LEGAL EDUCATION SUCCESS COLLABORATIVE BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE SCHOOL OF LAW, THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF LAW, AND THE MARYLAND HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE COLLABORATIVE IS TO INCREASE DIVERSITY IN THE LEGAL FIELD THROUGH:

(1) FINANCIAL SUPPORT, ACADEMIC SUCCESS, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND MENTORING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE SCHOLARS PROGRAM;

(2) THE UB LAW AND HBCU COOPERATIVE THAT PREPARES MARYLAND HBCU STUDENTS FOR LAW SCHOOL AND PROVIDES ACADEMIC SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS IN LAW SCHOOL AND THROUGHOUT THEIR LEGAL CAREERS; AND

(3) THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF LAW DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION SCHOLARS PROGRAM.

(D) (1) THE UB LAW AND HBCU COOPERATIVE SHALL BE DEVELOPED AND ADMINISTERED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE SCHOOL OF LAW ~~AND COORDINATED WITH MARYLAND HBCUS.~~

(2) THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF LAW DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION SCHOLARS PROGRAM SHALL BE DEVELOPED AND ADMINISTERED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF LAW.

(E) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, ~~THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPROPRIATE:~~

(1) ~~\$200,000~~ THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF \$125,000 TO EACH SCHOLARS PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE SCHOOL OF LAW AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF LAW; AND

(2) ~~\$50,000 TO ONE MARYLAND HBCU SELECTED BY THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION FOR SUPPORTING A COORDINATOR POSITION TO PROMOTE THE SCHOLARS PROGRAM TO STUDENTS AT ALL MARYLAND HBCUS~~ THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE SCHOOL OF LAW AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF LAW EACH SHALL PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE SCHOLARS PROGRAM TO MATCH THE AMOUNT PROVIDED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, UP TO \$125,000.

(F) THE MONEY APPROPRIATED UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION IS SUPPLEMENTAL TO AND MAY NOT SUPPLANT FUNDING THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE SCHOLARS PROGRAM, MARYLAND HBCUS, THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE, OR THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE CAMPUS.

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

Approved by the Governor, May 18, 2021.