

HOUSE BILL 541

F2, F3

(4lr3090)

ENROLLED BILL

— Appropriations/Education, Energy, and the Environment —

Introduced by **Delegates Henson, Bagnall, Bartlett, D. Jones, Kipke, Lehman, Pruski, Rogers, Schmidt, and Simmons**

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 **Anne Arundel County – Student Loan Assistance Repayment Program for**
3 **Educators – Established**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Anne Arundel County Student Loan Assistance
5 Repayment Program for Educators to assist in the repayment of certain student
6 loans owed by educators who meet certain eligibility requirements; authorizing the
7 governing body of Anne Arundel County to establish the Program for educators
8 employed by the Anne Arundel County Public School System; requiring the county
9 to establish the amount and terms and conditions of the Program; and generally
10 relating to the establishment of the Anne Arundel County Student Loan Assistance
11 Repayment Program for Educators.

12 BY adding to
13 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.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 Section 18–4001 through 18–4005 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 40. Anne
 2 Arundel County Student Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Educators”
 3 Annotated Code of Maryland
 4 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

7 **Article – Education**

8 **SUBTITLE 40. ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY STUDENT LOAN ASSISTANCE REPAYMENT**
 9 **PROGRAM FOR EDUCATORS.**

10 **18–4001.**

11 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
 12 INDICATED.

13 (B) “EDUCATOR” INCLUDES A CLASSROOM TEACHER, AN EDUCATION
 14 SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL, AN EDUCATION–RELATED SERVICE PROVIDER, AND A
 15 SPECIALIST ELIGIBLE FOR CERTIFICATION FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF
 16 EDUCATION.

17 ~~(C)~~ (C) “HIGHER EDUCATION LOAN” MEANS ANY LOAN FOR
 18 UNDERGRADUATE OR GRADUATE STUDY THAT IS OBTAINED FOR TUITION,
 19 EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES, OR LIVING EXPENSES FROM:

20 (1) A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY, GOVERNMENT, OR COMMERCIAL
 21 SOURCE; OR

22 (2) AN ORGANIZATION, AN INSTITUTION, AN ASSOCIATION, A
 23 SOCIETY, OR A CORPORATION THAT IS EXEMPT FROM TAXATION UNDER § 501(C)(3)
 24 OR (4) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.

25 ~~(D)~~ (D) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY STUDENT
 26 LOAN ASSISTANCE REPAYMENT PROGRAM FOR EDUCATORS.

27 **18–4002.**

28 (A) IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE COUNTY
 29 MAY ESTABLISH A STUDENT LOAN ASSISTANCE REPAYMENT PROGRAM FOR
 30 EDUCATORS EMPLOYED BY THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

31 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO ATTRACT, RECRUIT, AND RETAIN
 32 A DIVERSE CADRE OF QUALIFIED EDUCATORS IN THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

1 PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM THAT IS REFLECTIVE OF THE STUDENT POPULATION
2 WITHIN THE COUNTY SCHOOLS.

3 (C) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION, THE COUNTY SHALL
4 ASSIST IN THE REPAYMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION LOANS OWED BY AN INDIVIDUAL
5 WHO:

6 (1) RECEIVES A GRADUATE, PROFESSIONAL, OR UNDERGRADUATE
7 DEGREE FROM AN ACCREDITED COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY;

8 (2) OBTAINS EMPLOYMENT AS AN EDUCATOR IN THE ANNE ARUNDEL
9 COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM;

10 (3) COMMITS TO SERVE IN THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PUBLIC
11 SCHOOL SYSTEM FOR A PERIOD OF NOT LESS THAN 5 YEARS;

12 (4) RECEIVES AN INCOME THAT IS LESS THAN THE MAXIMUM
13 ELIGIBLE TOTAL INCOME LEVELS ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNTY, INCLUDING ANY
14 ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INCOME THE INDIVIDUAL MAY EARN;

15 (5) IS NOT IN DEFAULT ON ANY STUDENT LOAN; AND

16 (6) SATISFIES ANY OTHER CRITERIA ESTABLISHED UNDER THE
17 PROGRAM BY THE COUNTY.

18 (D) AN APPLICANT FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE REPAYMENT OF A COMMERCIAL
19 LOAN SHALL DEMONSTRATE TO THE COUNTY THAT THE COMMERCIAL LOAN WAS
20 USED FOR TUITION, EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES, OR LIVING EXPENSES FOR GRADUATE
21 OR UNDERGRADUATE STUDY.

22 18-4003.

23 LOAN ASSISTANCE UNDER THE PROGRAM SHALL BE IN THE AMOUNT AND ON
24 THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNTY.

25 18-4004.

26 THE PROGRAM SHALL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
27 PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

28 18-4005.

29 (A) FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM SHALL BE AS PROVIDED ON AN ANNUAL
30 BASIS IN THE COUNTY BUDGET IN AN APPROPRIATION SEPARATE FROM THE

1 COUNTY’S APPROPRIATION TO THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE ANNE ARUNDEL
2 COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.

3 (B) FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM MAY BE USED TO COVER ADMINISTRATIVE
4 EXPENSES OF THE PROGRAM.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 October 1, 2024.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.