

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2019 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR-002-2020

Draft No.: 1

Committee: General Assembly Committee

Date: 2/11/2020

Action: FAV

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable, 4-0 (In Favor: Council Members Davis, Taveras, Ivey and Turner)

The General Assembly Committee convened on February 11, 2020 to review, CR-2-2020, which expresses the County Council's support of the settlement offer made by the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Coalition ("HBCU Coalition") to resolve the lawsuit against the State of Maryland; and urging Governor Hogan and the members of the Maryland General Assembly to settle the HBCU Coalition lawsuit in accordance with the Court ruling and the offer made by the HBCU Coalition.

The State of Maryland has four Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), including Bowie State University, located in Prince George's County; Morgan State University and Coppin State University, both located in Baltimore City, and; the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, located in Somerset County. These institutions are an essential part of the Maryland higher education system and they provide unique educational opportunities for large segments of the population of the State, as well as serving as economic engines in their communities and the State of Maryland.

Monica Best-James, Legislative Officer, provided a summary of the resolution, indicating that the settlement offer made by the HBCU Coalition consists of \$577 million over a ten-year period as compensation for the discriminatory practices that have impacted the HBCUs in Maryland. Ms. Best-James indicated that Baltimore City and the City of Bowie have passed similar resolutions. Adrienne Jones, Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates, has introduced HB 1260, which requires the Governor to include \$577 million in the annual State operating budget in each of the fiscal years 2022 through 2031 to be allocated to the four HBCUs in Maryland based on an enrollment-driven calculation. The Committee's discussion included testimony in support from Sharon Blake (Morgan State University Alum), of the Maryland HBCU Advocates. Committee Chair Davis indicated his personal support as a proud graduate of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, and Committee Director Kenneth Battle is a proud graduate of Morgan State University (Class of '84).

After the discussion, the Committee voted favorably on CR-2-2020 by a vote of 4-0.

Aye: 11 Turner, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison,
Hawkins, Ivey, Streeter and Taveras

AFFECTED CODE SECTIONS:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT:

For the purpose of supporting the ruling of the United States District Court for the District of Maryland and the settlement offer made by the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Coalition to resolve the lawsuit against the State of Maryland; and urging Governor Hogan and the members of the Maryland General Assembly to settle the Coalition lawsuit in accordance with the Court ruling and the offer made by the Coalition.

Document(s): R2020002, CR-002-2020 AIS, CR-002-2020 Report

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

2020 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-2-2020
 Proposed by Council Members Turner, Hawkins, Davis, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Ivey, Streeter and Dernoga
 Introduced by Council Members Turner, Hawkins, Davis, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Ivey, Streeter and Dernoga
 Co-Sponsors _____
 Date of Introduction February 4, 2020

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION Concerning

2 Maryland's Historically Black Colleges and Universities Settlement

3 For the purpose of supporting the settlement offer made by the Historically Black Colleges and
 4 Universities Coalition ("HBCU Coalition") to resolve the lawsuit against the State of Maryland;
 5 and urging Governor Hogan and the members of the Maryland General Assembly to settle the
 6 HBCU Coalition lawsuit in accordance with the Court ruling and the offer made by the HBCU
 7 Coalition.

8 WHEREAS, the State of Maryland (hereinafter "State") has four Historically Black
 9 Colleges and Universities (hereinafter "HBCUs"), including Bowie State University located in
 10 Bowie in Prince George's County, Maryland and the others are located within the greater
 11 Baltimore metropolitan region and on the Eastern Shore of Maryland; and

12 WHEREAS, HBCUs are an essential part of the Maryland higher education system and
 13 they provide unique educational opportunities for large segments of the population of the State
 14 and Prince George's County; and

15 WHEREAS, HBCUs serve as economic engines in their communities by employing
 16 Maryland residents; making countless contributions to the State's economy through the revenue
 17 that they generate; supporting the State's economic growth through the expenditures made by
 18 their students, faculty, staff and alumni; and

19 WHEREAS, the HBCUs are significant contributors to the social and cultural life of Prince
 20 George's County and the greater Baltimore metropolitan region and the Eastern Shore of
 21 Maryland through their unique programs and curricula, athletic programs, and other special
 22 events; and

1 WHEREAS, the United States District Court for the District of Maryland (hereinafter
2 “District Court”) opined in 2013 that the State had adversely impacted the HBCUs as a result of
3 its unconstitutional and discriminatory practice of providing funding for the unnecessary
4 duplication of academic programs in State supported, non-HBCU colleges and universities; and

5 WHEREAS, the District Court ordered in 2017 that the State of Maryland remedy the
6 violations by establishing a set of unique and popular programs with appropriate funding for
7 scholarships, marketing and recruitment at each of the State’s HBCUs; and

8 WHEREAS, after several attempts at mediation, the HBCU Coalition recently offered to
9 settle the case for \$577 million over a period of 10 years; and

10 WHEREAS, the Prince George’s County Council affirms that the HBCUs success is
11 important to the vitality of this county and the State; and

12 WHEREAS, the Prince George’s County Council further affirm that we stand with alumni,
13 students, faculty, staff and the community in support of Maryland’s HBCUs.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
15 County, Maryland, that the County Council supports the offer made by the Historically Black
16 Colleges and Universities Coalition regarding the lawsuit against the State of Maryland and
17 urges Governor Hogan and the Maryland General Assembly to reach a settlement in accordance
18 with the District Court’s rulings.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Governor of
20 Maryland, the Attorney General of Maryland, President of the Senate, President Emeritus of the
21 Senate, Speaker of the House, Chair of the Legislative Black Caucus, the President of Bowie
22 State University, the President of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, the President of
23 Coppin State University; the President of Morgan State University and the honorable members
24 of the Prince George’s County Senate and House Delegations.

1

Adopted this 18th day of February, 2020.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: Todd M. Turner
Todd M. Turner
Council Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council



Prince George's County Council

Agenda Item Summary

Meeting Date: 2/18/2020

Effective Date:

Reference No.: CR-002-2020

Chapter Number:

Draft No.: 1

Public Hearing Date:

Proposer(s): Turner, Hawkins, Davis, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Ivey, Dernoga, Streeter, Taveras and Anderson-Walker

Sponsor(s): Turner, Hawkins, Davis, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Ivey, Dernoga, Streeter, Taveras and Anderson-Walker

Item Title: A RESOLUTION CONCERNING MARYLAND'S HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES SETTLEMENT for the purpose of supporting the settlement offer made by the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Coalition ("HBCU Coalition") to resolve the lawsuit against the State of Maryland; and urging Governor Hogan and the members of the Maryland General Assembly to settle the HBCU Coalition lawsuit in accordance with the Court ruling and the offer made by the HBCU Coalition.

Drafter: Monica Best-James, Legislative Officer

Resource Personnel: Tomeka C. Brumbry, Chief of Staff/Legislative Aide, District 4

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
02/04/2020	County Council	introduced and referred	GA
	Action Text: This Resolution was introduced by Council Members Turner, Hawkins, Davis, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Ivey, Streeter, Dernoga and Taveras and referred to the General Assembly Committee.		
02/11/2020	GA	Favorably recommended	County Council
	Action Text: A motion was made by Council Member Turner, seconded by Council Member Ivey, that this Resolution be Favorably recommended to the County Council. The motion carried by the following vote: Aye: 4 Davis, Taveras, Ivey and Turner Absent: 1 Franklin		
02/18/2020	County Council	adopted	
	Action Text: A motion was made by Council Chair Turner, seconded by Vice Chair Hawkins, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:		