
By: Chairman, Commerce and Government Matters Committee (Departmental - Higher Education Commission)

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 1997

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education - Community Colleges - Debt Collection**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing that a community college or board of trustees for a
4 community college established or operating under certain State law shall be deemed
5 a State agency for the purpose of authorizing the Central Collection Unit in the
6 Department of Budget and Management to collect delinquent accounts or other
7 debt that is owed to a community college or board of trustees for a community
8 college; and generally relating to debt collection.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - State Finance and Procurement
11 Section 3-302
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - State Finance and Procurement**

17 3-302.

18 (a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this section or in other
19 law, the Central Collection Unit is responsible for the collection of each delinquent
20 account or other debt that is owed to the State or any of its officials or units.

21 (2) An official or unit of the State government shall refer to the Central
22 Collection Unit each debt for which the Central Collection Unit has collection
23 responsibility under this subsection and may not settle the debt.

24 (3) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE, A COMMUNITY COLLEGE OR
25 BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR A COMMUNITY COLLEGE ESTABLISHED OR OPERATING
26 UNDER TITLE 16 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE IS A UNIT OF THE STATE.

27 (b) Unless, with the approval of the Secretary, a unit of the State government
28 assigns the claim to the Central Collection Unit, the Central Collection Unit is not
29 responsible for and may not collect:

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1 (1) any taxes;

2 (2) any child support payment that is owed under Article 88A, § 48 of the
3 Code;

4 (3) any unemployment insurance contribution or overpayment;

5 (4) any fine;

6 (5) any court costs;

7 (6) any forfeiture on bond;

8 (7) any money that is owed as a result of a default on a loan that the
9 Department of Business and Economic Development or the Department of Housing and
10 Community Development has made or insured; or

11 (8) any money that is owed under Article 48A, Subtitle 10, 16A, 33, or 34 of
12 the Code.

13 (C) THE CENTRAL COLLECTION UNIT SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE
14 COLLECTION OF EACH DELINQUENT ACCOUNT OR OTHER DEBT THAT IS OWED TO A
15 COMMUNITY COLLEGE ESTABLISHED OR OPERATING UNDER TITLE 16 OF THE
16 EDUCATION ARTICLE IF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

17 (1) ADOPTS A RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE GENERAL COLLECTION
18 UNIT AS THE COLLECTOR OF DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS OR OTHER DEBT; AND

19 (2) SUBMITS THE RESOLUTION TO THE CENTRAL COLLECTION UNIT.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 July 1, 1997.