

SENATE BILL 174

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1998 Regular Session  
8lr6181  
CF 8lr6183

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By: **The President (Administration) and Senators Blount, Hoffman, Hollinger, Ruben, Lawlah, Collins, Dyson, Frosh, Pinsky, Sfikas, Boozer, Currie, McFadden, Middleton, Munson, Neall, Madden, Conway, Della, Derr, Dorman, Forehand, Fry, Green, Hafer, Hughes, Jimeno, Kelley, Middlebrooks, Roesser, Stone, and Trotter**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 1998  
Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education - Maryland Science and Technology Scholarships**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Science and Technology Scholarship  
4 Program for certain students; providing for the awarding of Maryland Science  
5 and Technology Scholarships; establishing the requirements for receiving a  
6 Maryland Science and Technology Scholarship; requiring the State Scholarship  
7 Administration to send each Senator and Delegate certain information;  
8 providing for the funding of the Maryland Science and Technology Scholarships;  
9 providing for the effective date of this Act; and generally relating to the  
10 Maryland Science and Technology Scholarships.

11 BY adding to  
12 Article - Education  
13 Section 18-2001 through 18-2008, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle  
14 "Subtitle 20. Maryland Science and Technology Scholarships"  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

17 Preamble

18 WHEREAS, The Department of Business and Economic Development and key  
19 members of the business community report that Maryland's businesses are  
20 experiencing a shortage, or anticipate a shortage, of qualified applicants in the fields  
21 of computer science, engineering, and technology; and

22 WHEREAS, A Maryland Higher Education Commission survey of over 2,500  
23 employers in all regions of the State indicates that additional workers are needed in  
24 these critical areas; and

25 WHEREAS, These fields of science and technology are among the highest  
26 growth industries for the 21st Century; and

1 WHEREAS, An educated, well trained and highly skilled workforce is crucial to  
2 economic development and job growth in this State as higher education and business  
3 needs are closely linked; and

4 WHEREAS, It is an important role for the State to ensure that institutions of  
5 higher education are producing graduates with skills needed by business; and

6 WHEREAS, This Science and Technology Scholarship Program intends to help  
7 meet the State's economic development needs by rewarding students who work hard  
8 in school, demonstrate their ability, and agree to use their training and skills to  
9 become valued members of Maryland's workforce; now, therefore,

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

12 **Article - Education**

13 **SUBTITLE 20. MARYLAND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIPS.**  
14 18-2001.

15 IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

16 (1) "REGULAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM" MEANS AN ACADEMIC  
17 PROGRAM OF STUDY IN AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION AT OR BELOW THE  
18 BACCALAUREATE LEVEL LEADING TO EITHER A CERTIFICATE, ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE  
19 OR BACHELOR'S DEGREE.

20 (2) (I) "SERVICE OBLIGATION" MEANS EMPLOYMENT IN THE STATE IN  
21 AN OCCUPATION DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE ELIGIBLE PROGRAM OF STUDY AS  
22 DETERMINED BY THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION.

23 (II) "SERVICE OBLIGATION" DOES NOT MEAN PAID STUDENT  
24 INTERNSHIPS, PAID FELLOWSHIPS, OR VOLUNTEER SERVICE.

25 (III) "ADMINISTRATION" MEANS THE STATE SCHOLARSHIP  
26 ADMINISTRATION AS DEFINED IN SECTION 18-101(B).

27 18-2002.

28 (A) THERE IS A PROGRAM OF MARYLAND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
29 SCHOLARSHIPS IN THIS STATE THAT ARE AWARDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE. THE  
30 ADMINISTRATION SHALL ANNUALLY SELECT SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO  
31 HAVE THE GREATEST POTENTIAL FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS IN HIGHER EDUCATION  
32 AND OFFER A SCHOLARSHIP TO EACH STUDENT TO BE USED AT A MARYLAND  
33 HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION OF THEIR CHOICE, IF THE RECIPIENT MEETS THE  
34 FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:

35 (1) QUALIFIES ACADEMICALLY AS FOLLOWS:

1 (I) HAS A SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT INDICATING AN  
2 OVERALL ACADEMIC GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF AT LEAST 3.0 ON A 4.0 SCALE OR ITS  
3 EQUIVALENT GRADE POINT AVERAGE IN CORE CURRICULUM COURSES AFTER  
4 COMPLETION OF THE FIRST SEMESTER OF THE SENIOR YEAR;

5 (II) INTENDS TO ENROLL AS A FULL-TIME STUDENT IN AN  
6 ACADEMIC PROGRAM AS DESIGNATED BY THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION  
7 COMMISSION; AND

8 (III) HAS GRADUATED FROM A SECONDARY SCHOOL IN MARYLAND;

9 (2) IS A MARYLAND RESIDENT;

10 (3) IS ACCEPTED FOR ADMISSION IN A REGULAR UNDERGRADUATE  
11 PROGRAM AT A MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION IN THE STATE;

12 (4) BEGINS ATTENDING AN ELIGIBLE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION  
13 INSTITUTION WITHIN 1 YEAR OF COMPLETING HIGH SCHOOL OR, FAILING TO DO SO,  
14 PROVIDES EVIDENCE SATISFACTORY TO THE STATE SCHOLARSHIP ADMINISTRATION  
15 OF EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES;

16 (5) AGREES TO THE CONDITIONS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS  
17 SECTION; AND

18 (6) ACCEPTS ANY OTHER CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO THE AWARD AND  
19 SATISFIES ANY ADDITIONAL CRITERIA THE COMMISSION MAY ESTABLISH.

20 (B) (1) THE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD SHALL BE IN THE AMOUNT OF  
21 \$1,000 FOR A STUDENT ENROLLED AT A 2-YEAR ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION OR \$3,000 FOR  
22 A STUDENT ENROLLED AT A 4-YEAR ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.

23 (2) IF ACCEPTED BY THE ELIGIBLE STUDENT, EACH AWARD MAY BE  
24 RENEWED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS FOR A MAXIMUM OF 3 YEARS AFTER THE ORIGINAL  
25 AWARD IF THE RECIPIENT:

26 (I) REMAINS A RESIDENT OF THE STATE;

27 (II) ATTENDS A MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION IN  
28 THE STATE;

29 (III) IS ENROLLED AS A FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT  
30 AND TAKES AT LEAST 12 SEMESTER HOURS OF COURSES EACH SEMESTER OR ITS  
31 EQUIVALENT AS DETERMINED BY THE ADMINISTRATION;

32 (IV) MAINTAINS A 3.0 GRADE POINT AVERAGE ON AN ACADEMIC  
33 YEAR BASIS OR, FAILING TO DO SO, PROVIDES EVIDENCE SATISFACTORY TO THE  
34 ADMINISTRATION, OF EXTREME EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES;

35 (V) IS MAKING SATISFACTORY PROGRESS TOWARD A DEGREE AS  
36 DETERMINED BY THE INSTITUTION; AND

1 (VI) MAINTAINS THE STANDARDS OF THE INSTITUTION.

2 (3) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS  
3 SUBSECTION, EACH RECIPIENT OF A MARYLAND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
4 SCHOLARSHIP WHO IS ENROLLED IN A BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAM MAY  
5 RENEW THE ANNUAL AWARD FOUR TIMES IF THE RECIPIENT IS ENROLLED IN AN  
6 UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAM THAT, AS DETERMINED BY THE  
7 INSTITUTION, REQUIRES 5 YEARS TO COMPLETE.

8 (4) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS  
9 SUBSECTION, EACH AWARD MAY BE RENEWED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS FOR A  
10 MAXIMUM OF 2 YEARS FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A CERTIFICATE OR AN  
11 ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM.

12 (C) A RECIPIENT OF AN AWARD MADE UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL RECEIVE  
13 THE AWARD FOR EACH YEAR INDICATED IN WHICH THE RECIPIENT IS ELIGIBLE IF:

14 (1) THE RECIPIENT SIGNS AN AGREEMENT AT THE TIME OF THE INITIAL  
15 AWARD TO:

16 (I) COMMENCE EMPLOYMENT IN THE STATE WITHIN 1 YEAR  
17 AFTER COMPLETION OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES FOR 1 YEAR FOR EACH YEAR  
18 THAT THE SCHOLARSHIP WAS AWARDED; AND

19 (II) REPAY THE STATE THE AMOUNTS AWARDED UNDER THIS  
20 SUBTITLE AND SIMPLE INTEREST EQUAL TO THE PRIME RATE OF INTEREST PLUS 2  
21 PERCENT CALCULATED FROM THE DATE OF THE FIRST PAYMENT OF THE GRANT  
22 AWARD UNDER THIS SUBTITLE FOR ANY PORTION OF THE AWARD IF THE RECIPIENT  
23 DOES NOT:

24 1. SATISFY THE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ELIGIBLE  
25 ACADEMIC PROGRAM OR FULFILL OTHER REQUIREMENTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS  
26 SUBTITLE; AND

27 2. PERFORM THE SERVICE OBLIGATION FOR 1 YEAR FOR  
28 EACH YEAR THAT THE RECIPIENT HAS A SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED UNDER THIS  
29 SUBTITLE; AND

30 (2) THE SERVICE OBLIGATION BEGINS AFTER GRADUATION AND  
31 CANNOT BE FULFILLED PRIOR TO GRADUATION FROM AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.

32 18-2003.

33 A MARYLAND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP MAY BE USED FOR  
34 TUITION AND MANDATORY FEES AT ANY ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.

35 18-2004.

36 EACH YEAR AFTER CONSULTING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND  
37 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING, AND

1 REGULATION AND THE APPROPRIATE COMMISSION ADVISORY BOARDS EVALUATING  
2 SUCH FACTORS AS HIGH ECONOMIC GROWTH AND THE NEEDS OF MARYLAND'S  
3 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS COMMUNITY, THE  
4 COMMISSION SHALL ESTABLISH A LIST OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS ELIGIBLE FOR THE  
5 MARYLAND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

6 18-2005.

7 FUNDS FOR THE MARYLAND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP  
8 PROGRAM SHALL BE AS PROVIDED IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE COMMISSION BY  
9 THE GOVERNOR.

10 18-2006.

11 EXCEPT FOR A DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR AWARD UNDER § 18-1101 OF THIS  
12 ARTICLE, THE RECIPIENT OF A MARYLAND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
13 SCHOLARSHIP MAY NOT HOLD ANY OTHER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED UNDER THIS  
14 TITLE.

15 18-2007.

16 ON OR BEFORE MAY 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL SEND EACH  
17 SENATOR AND EACH DELEGATE A LIST OF INDIVIDUALS IN EACH LEGISLATIVE  
18 DISTRICT TO WHOM MARYLAND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIPS ARE  
19 AWARDED.

20 18-2008.

21 THE STATE SCHOLARSHIP ADMINISTRATION SHALL PUBLICIZE THE  
22 AVAILABILITY OF MARYLAND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIPS.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
24 July 1, 1998.