

BY: Delegate Dembrow

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL NO. 120  
(First Reading File Bill - Committee Reprint)

On page 124, under:

Heading: UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK  
Program: RB22.00  
Entitled: University of Maryland, College Park

In line 3, after "Appropriation" insert " , provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation may only be expended for the Department of Criminology at the University of Maryland, College Park to conduct a study of the administration of the death penalty in the State for the purpose of determining the extent of race-based discrimination in the death penalty process. The study shall include an extensive empirical examination of charging and sentencing outcomes, including the gathering of detailed case history information and the use of statistical analyses that will allow researchers to address whether the race of the defendant or victim affects a prosecutor's decision to charge a defendant with a crime that is punishable by death or to file a notice of intent to seek a sentence of death; whether the race of the defendant or victim affects the decision of a judge or jury to impose a sentence of death; whether the jurisdiction within which a crime occurs affects a prosecutor's decision to charge a defendant with a crime that is punishable by death or to file a notice of intent to seek a sentence of death; whether the jurisdiction within which a crime occurs affects the decision of a judge or jury to impose a sentence of death; and whether homicides with comparable characteristics are treated in comparable ways by prosecutors at the charging stage and by judges and juries at the sentencing stage. The Department of Criminology shall make a preliminary report to the General Assembly on or before June 30, 2000. It is the intent of the General Assembly that a final report be issued to the General Assembly before January 1, 2001.".