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By: **Senator Baker**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 1999

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Science and Technology Scholarships - Elimination of Secondary**  
3 **School Requirement**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that a recipient of a Maryland Science  
5 and Technology Scholarship graduate from a secondary school in Maryland; and  
6 generally relating to Maryland Science and Technology Scholarships.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article - Education  
9 Section 18-2002  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Education**

15 18-2002.

16 (a) There is a program of Maryland Science and Technology Scholarships in  
17 this State that are awarded under this subtitle. The Administration shall annually  
18 select secondary school students who have the greatest potential for academic success  
19 in higher education and offer a scholarship to each student to be used at a Maryland  
20 higher education institution of their choice, if the recipient meets the following  
21 qualifications:

22 (1) Qualifies academically as follows:

23 (i) Has a secondary school transcript indicating an overall  
24 academic grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent grade  
25 point average in core curriculum courses after completion of the first semester of the  
26 senior year; AND

27 (ii) Intends to enroll as a full-time student in an academic program  
28 as designated by the Maryland Higher Education Commission; [and

1 (iii) Has graduated from a secondary school in Maryland;]

2 (2) Is a Maryland resident;

3 (3) Is accepted for admission in a regular undergraduate program at a  
4 Maryland higher education institution in the State;

5 (4) Begins attending an eligible Maryland higher education institution  
6 within 2 years of completing high school or, failing to do so, provides evidence  
7 satisfactory to the State Scholarship Administration of extenuating circumstances;

8 (5) Agrees to the conditions provided in subsection (c) of this section; and

9 (6) Accepts any other conditions attached to the award and satisfies any  
10 additional criteria the Commission may establish.

11 (b) (1) The annual scholarship award shall be in the amount of \$1,000 for a  
12 student enrolled at a 2-year eligible institution or \$3,000 for a student enrolled at a  
13 4-year eligible institution.

14 (2) If accepted by the eligible student, each award may be renewed on an  
15 annual basis for a maximum of 3 years after the original award if the recipient:

16 (i) Remains a resident of the State;

17 (ii) Attends a Maryland higher education institution in the State;

18 (iii) Is enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student and takes at  
19 least 12 semester hours of courses each semester or its equivalent as determined by  
20 the Administration;

21 (iv) Maintains a 3.0 grade point average on an academic year basis  
22 or, failing to do so, provides evidence satisfactory to the Administration, of extreme  
23 extenuating circumstances;

24 (v) Is making satisfactory progress toward a degree as determined  
25 by the institution; and

26 (vi) Maintains the standards of the institution.

27 (3) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection, each  
28 recipient of a Maryland Science and Technology Scholarship who is enrolled in a  
29 baccalaureate degree program may renew the annual award four times if the  
30 recipient is enrolled in an undergraduate academic program that, as determined by  
31 the institution, requires 5 years to complete.

32 (4) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection, each  
33 award may be renewed on an annual basis for a maximum of 2 years for students  
34 enrolled in an associate degree program.

1 (c) A recipient of an award made under this section shall receive the award for  
2 each year indicated in which the recipient is eligible if:

3 (1) The recipient signs an agreement at the time of the initial award to:

4 (i) Commence employment in the State within 1 year after  
5 completion of undergraduate studies for 1 year for each year that the scholarship was  
6 awarded; and

7 (ii) Repay the State the amounts awarded under this subtitle and  
8 simple interest equal to the prime rate of interest plus 2 percent calculated from the  
9 date of the first payment of the grant award under this subtitle for any portion of the  
10 award if the recipient does not:

11 1. Satisfy the degree requirements of the eligible academic  
12 program or fulfill other requirements as provided in this subtitle; and

13 2. Perform the service obligation for 1 year for each year that  
14 the recipient has a scholarship awarded under this subtitle; and

15 (2) The service obligation begins after graduation and cannot be fulfilled  
16 prior to graduation from an eligible institution.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 October 1, 1999.