

SENATE BILL 412

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2000 Regular Session  
Olr1072

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By: **Senators Hoffman and Hogan**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2000

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2                                   **Community College Job Training Opportunity Program - Temporary**  
3                                   **Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Community College Job Training Opportunity  
5 Program; requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to administer  
6 the Program; providing that the purpose of the Program is to provide funding for  
7 job training advance accounts that will allow eligible individuals to pursue  
8 approved job training programs at community colleges; requiring that the  
9 Program be funded with money from the federal Temporary Assistance to Needy  
10 Families (TANF) block grant and any other available public or private source;  
11 requiring the Commission, after consulting with the Department of Business  
12 and Economic Development and the Department of Labor, Licensing, and  
13 Regulation, to adopt regulations that identify work-related skills and  
14 occupations that are in short supply in the State and are critical to the State's  
15 economic development strategy; requiring the Commission to distribute certain  
16 funds to community colleges; requiring a community college to use the funds to  
17 establish job training advance accounts for eligible individuals; specifying that  
18 the money that is deposited in an account may be used only for certain purposes;  
19 requiring the Commission to adopt any regulations that are necessary to  
20 implement this Act, including regulations that establish application procedures  
21 for an individual seeking to have a job training advance account established at a  
22 community college; defining certain terms; and generally relating to community  
23 colleges and the TANF block grant.

24 BY adding to  
25 Article - Education  
26 Section 18-2401 through 18-2406, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 24.  
27 Community College Job Training Opportunity Program"  
28 Annotated Code of Maryland  
29 (1999 Replacement Volume)

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

1 **Article - Education**

2 SUBTITLE 24. COMMUNITY COLLEGE JOB TRAINING OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM.

3 18-2401.

4 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
5 INDICATED.6 (B) "APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAM" MEANS A PROGRAM OF STUDY THAT  
7 IS:

8 (1) OFFERED AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE; AND

9 (2) IDENTIFIED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER § 18-2403 OF THIS  
10 SUBTITLE AS A PROGRAM OF STUDY THAT PROVIDES TRAINING IN A WORKPLACE  
11 SKILL OR OCCUPATION THAT IS IN SHORT SUPPLY IN THE STATE AND CRITICAL TO  
12 THE STATE'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY.

13 (C) "ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:

14 (1) (I) IS CURRENTLY A RECIPIENT IN A FAMILY INVESTMENT  
15 PROGRAM CASE; OR16 (II) 1. WAS A RECIPIENT IN A FAMILY INVESTMENT PROGRAM  
17 CASE WITHIN 1 YEAR OF THE DATE OF APPLICATION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOB  
18 TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNT UNDER THIS SUBTITLE; AND19 2. CURRENTLY LIVES IN A HOUSEHOLD WITH AN INCOME  
20 THAT IS NOT MORE THAN 200% OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL; AND21 (2) HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE FOR  
22 ENROLLMENT IN AN APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAM.

23 (D) "ELIGIBLE JOB TRAINING EXPENSES" MEANS THE COST OF:

24 (1) TUITION AND FEES THAT ARE REQUIRED FOR ENROLLMENT IN AN  
25 APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAM; AND26 (2) BOOKS, SUPPLIES, TRANSPORTATION, TUTORING, AND CHILD CARE  
27 THAT ARE NECESSARY TO ALLOW AN INDIVIDUAL TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AN  
28 APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAM.29 (E) "FAMILY INVESTMENT PROGRAM" MEANS THE FAMILY INVESTMENT  
30 PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER ARTICLE 88A, §§ 44A THROUGH 50 OF THE CODE.

31 (F) (1) "FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE" MEANS:

32 (I) A GRANT; OR

33 (II) ANY OTHER FORM OF CASH ASSISTANCE.

1 (2) "FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE" DOES NOT INCLUDE A LOAN.

2 (G) "JOB TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNT" MEANS AN ACCOUNT THAT IS  
3 ESTABLISHED BY A COMMUNITY COLLEGE UNDER § 18-2405 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

4 (H) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE JOB TRAINING  
5 OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

6 (I) "PROGRAM OF STUDY" INCLUDES A PROGRAM THAT, ON SUCCESSFUL  
7 COMPLETION, RESULTS IN THE ISSUANCE OF A CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY IN A  
8 SPECIFIC WORK-RELATED SKILL OR OCCUPATION.

9 (J) "RECIPIENT" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN ARTICLE 88A, § 44A(J) OF THE  
10 CODE.

11 (K) "SUPPLIES" MEANS ANY EQUIPMENT, TOOL, INSTRUMENT, OR OTHER  
12 ITEM THAT IS NECESSARY FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF AN APPROVED JOB  
13 TRAINING PROGRAM.

14 (L) "TANF MONEY" MEANS MONEY THAT IS INCLUDED IN THE TEMPORARY  
15 ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) BLOCK GRANT THAT IS RECEIVED FROM  
16 THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

17 18-2402.

18 (A) THERE IS A COMMUNITY COLLEGE JOB TRAINING OPPORTUNITY  
19 PROGRAM.

20 (B) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.

21 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR JOB  
22 TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNTS THAT WILL ALLOW ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS TO  
23 PURSUE APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS AT COMMUNITY COLLEGES.

24 (D) THE PROGRAM SHALL BE FUNDED, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET,  
25 WITH:

26 (1) TANF MONEY; AND

27 (2) MONEY FROM ANY OTHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SOURCE.

28 18-2403.

29 (A) AFTER CONSULTING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND  
30 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING, AND  
31 REGULATION, THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS NO LATER THAN  
32 SEPTEMBER 1, 2000, THAT IDENTIFY:

33 (1) THE WORK-RELATED SKILLS AND OCCUPATIONS THAT ARE IN  
34 SHORT SUPPLY IN THE STATE AND CRITICAL TO THE STATE'S ECONOMIC  
35 DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY; AND

1 (2) APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS.

2 (B) ANNUALLY, NO LATER THAN JULY 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSION  
3 SHALL UPDATE THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS  
4 SECTION.

5 18-2404.

6 (A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, AT THE BEGINNING OF  
7 EACH FISCAL YEAR, THE COMMISSION SHALL DISTRIBUTE TO EACH COMMUNITY  
8 COLLEGE IN THE STATE AN AMOUNT THAT IS EQUAL TO THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF  
9 MONEY THAT IS ALLOCATED TO THE PROGRAM IN THE STATE BUDGET MULTIPLIED  
10 BY THE RATIO OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS ACCEPTED FOR ENROLLMENT IN  
11 APPROVED PROGRAMS AT THAT PARTICULAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO THE TOTAL  
12 NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS ACCEPTED FOR ENROLLMENT IN APPROVED  
13 PROGRAMS AT COMMUNITY COLLEGES THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

14 (B) THE COMMISSION MAY USE MONEY THAT IS ALLOCATED TO THE  
15 PROGRAM IN THE STATE BUDGET TO PAY FOR THE COST OF ADMINISTERING THE  
16 PROGRAM.

17 18-2405.

18 (A) A COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL USE MONEY THAT IS DISTRIBUTED TO IT  
19 UNDER § 18-2404 OF THIS SUBTITLE TO ESTABLISH JOB TRAINING ADVANCE  
20 ACCOUNTS FOR ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.

21 (B) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTIONS (C) AND (D) OF THIS SECTION, A JOB TRAINING  
22 ADVANCE ACCOUNT SHALL BE USED TO PAY FOR ELIGIBLE JOB TRAINING  
23 EXPENSES.

24 (C) IF THERE IS ANOTHER SOURCE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THAT IS  
25 AVAILABLE TO AN ELIGIBLE PERSON TO COVER ELIGIBLE JOB TRAINING EXPENSES,  
26 MONEY THAT IS DEPOSITED IN A JOB TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNT MAY NOT BE  
27 USED TO PAY FOR THE ELIGIBLE JOB TRAINING EXPENSES.

28 (D) MONEY THAT IS DEPOSITED IN A JOB TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNT MAY  
29 NOT BE USED TO PAY FOR ELIGIBLE JOB TRAINING EXPENSES UNLESS THE ELIGIBLE  
30 INDIVIDUAL FIRST APPLIES FOR AND RECEIVES A DECISION REGARDING ANY  
31 AVAILABLE STATE OR FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

32 (E) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO APPLIES TO A COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO HAVE A JOB  
33 TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNT ESTABLISHED SHALL SUBMIT ANY DOCUMENTATION  
34 REQUIRED BY THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO ESTABLISH THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS  
35 AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL AS DEFINED IN § 18-2401(C) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

36 (F) DEPENDING ON THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT IS DISTRIBUTED TO A  
37 COMMUNITY COLLEGE UNDER § 18-2404 OF THIS SUBTITLE IN A PARTICULAR FISCAL  
38 YEAR, A COMMUNITY COLLEGE MAY ESTABLISH LIMITS ON:

1 (1) THE NUMBER OF JOB TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNTS THAT MAY BE  
2 ESTABLISHED THAT YEAR; AND

3 (2) THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT MAY BE DEPOSITED IN A JOB  
4 TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNT THAT YEAR.

5 18-2406.

6 (A) IN ADDITION TO THE REGULATIONS THAT ARE ADOPTED UNDER § 18-2403  
7 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT, NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1,  
8 2000, ANY REGULATIONS THAT ARE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBTITLE,  
9 INCLUDING REGULATIONS THAT ESTABLISH APPLICATION PROCEDURES TO BE  
10 FOLLOWED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO SEEKS TO HAVE A JOB TRAINING ADVANCE  
11 ACCOUNT ESTABLISHED BY A COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

12 (B) (1) BY DECEMBER 31 OF EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT A  
13 REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH §  
14 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS  
15 SUBTITLE.

16 (2) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION, AS  
17 DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION, THE REPORT SHALL SPECIFY:

18 (I) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE APPLIED TO A  
19 COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOB TRAINING ADVANCE  
20 ACCOUNT IN THAT CALENDAR YEAR;

21 (II) THE NUMBER OF JOB TRAINING ADVANCE ACCOUNTS THAT  
22 HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED BY A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THAT CALENDAR YEAR;  
23 AND

24 (III) THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE PURSUING  
25 APPROVED JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH THESE  
26 INDIVIDUALS ARE SUCCEEDING IN THE PROGRAMS.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
28 July 1, 2000.