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By: **Senator Bromwell**  
Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2000  
Assigned to: Rules

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Accelerated Nursing Scholarship Program**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Board of Nursing to establish and administer an  
4 Accelerated Nursing Scholarship Program; requiring nursing education  
5 programs to meet certain criteria to participate; establishing the amount and  
6 source of the scholarship; requiring participating students to perform a service  
7 obligation; and generally relating to the Accelerated Nursing Scholarship  
8 Program.

9 BY adding to  
10 Article - Health Occupations  
11 Section 8-405  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Health Occupations**

17 8-405.

18 (A) THE BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH AN ACCELERATED NURSING SCHOLARSHIP  
19 PROGRAM.

20 (B) A REGISTERED NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM IN THE STATE MAY  
21 QUALIFY TO OFFER A PROGRAM UNDER THIS SECTION IF:

22 (1) THE PROGRAM IS ACCELERATED TO LAST NO MORE THAN 18  
23 MONTHS; AND

24 (2) THE PROGRAM HAS A MINIMUM OF 25 STUDENTS INTERESTED IN  
25 RECEIVING THE ACCELERATED NURSING SCHOLARSHIP.

1 (C) THE BOARD SHALL AWARD IN SCHOLARSHIPS AN AMOUNT NOT TO  
2 EXCEED \$5,000 PER STUDENT IN FISCAL YEAR 2001, WHICH SHALL BE ADJUSTED  
3 EVERY 2 YEARS TO REFLECT CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING AND TUITION.

4 (D) PARTICIPATING STUDENTS SHALL BE REQUIRED TO WORK IN THE STATE  
5 IMMEDIATELY AFTER LICENSURE:

6 (1) FOR AT LEAST 3 YEARS; AND

7 (2) IN AREAS OF NURSING THAT ARE IDENTIFIED BY THE SECRETARY AS  
8 EXPERIENCING SHORTAGES.

9 (E) RECIPIENTS WHO FAIL TO FOLLOW PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS SHALL  
10 REPAY THE SCHOLARSHIP PLUS INTEREST.

11 (F) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT POLICIES REGARDING SELECTION OF  
12 STUDENTS AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM.

13 (G) FUNDING FOR THIS PROGRAM SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE  
14 DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL BUDGET AND MAY BE PROVIDED THROUGH THE CIGARETTE  
15 RESTITUTION FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER § 7-317 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND  
16 PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 October 1, 2000.