Unofficial Copy P4

By: The Speaker (Administration) and Delegates R. Baker, Barkley, Barve, Benson, Bobo, Bronrott, Brown, Burns, Cadden, Carlson, Cole, Conroy, D'Amato, C. Davis, D. Davis, DeCarlo, Dembrow, Dobson, Donoghue, Doory, Dypski, Franchot, Frush, Giannetti, Gladden, Goldwater, Gordon, Griffith, Grosfeld, Hammen, Harrison, Healey, Heller, Hill, Hixson, Howard, Hubbard, Hubers, Hurson, A. Jones, V. Jones, K. Kelly, Kirk, Kopp, Love, Malone, Mandel, Marriott, McHale, McIntosh, Menes, Minnick, Moe, Mohorovic, Montague, Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks, Owings, Paige, Palumbo, Patterson, Pendergrass, Petzold, Phillips, Proctor, Rawlings, Riley, Rosso, Sher, Shriver, Sophocleus, Stern, Swain, Taylor, Turner, Valderrama, Vallario, and Zirkin
Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2001

Assigned to: Appropriations

#### A BILL ENTITLED

#### 1 AN ACT concerning

2

#### **State Personnel - Higher Education - Collective Bargaining**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding the scope of certain provisions of law governing collective bargaining to include certain employees of certain State institutions of 4 5 higher education; providing for certain exemptions; requiring that the boards of 6 regents and the boards of trustees of certain State institutions of higher 7 education take certain actions in accordance with the requirements of certain 8 laws governing collective bargaining; requiring the boards of regents and the 9 boards of trustees to designate one or more representatives to participate as a 10 party in collective bargaining; specifying appropriate bargaining units for certain employees of certain State institutions of higher education; authorizing 11 12 the boards of regents and the boards of trustees of certain State institutions of 13 higher education to assign classification titles and positions to the bargaining units; authorizing the negotiation of supplemental memorandums of 14 15 understanding at constituent institutions of the University System of Maryland under certain circumstances; authorizing the State Labor Relations Board to 16 17 investigate and resolve certain disputes; clarifying certain provisions; 18 prohibiting the Board from conducting certain elections within a certain period; 19 repealing the authority of the Board to certify an exclusive representative under certain circumstances without an election; providing for the ratification of 20 21 certain supplemental memorandums of understanding; repealing certain 22 provisions of law that prohibit the Board of Regents of the University System of 23 Maryland from establishing or implementing a certain collective bargaining

24 plan; and generally relating to collective bargaining for employees of State

25 institutions of higher education.

1 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

- 2 Article Education
- 3 Section 12-110, 12-111, 14-104(f) and (g), and 14-408
- 4 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 5 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

- 7 Article State Personnel and Pensions
- 8 Section 3-102, 3-206, 3-207, 3-401, 3-403, 3-406, 3-501, 3-502, and 3-601
- 9 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 10 (1997 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)
- 11 BY repealing
- 12 Chapter 298 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1999
- 13 Section 6

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16

## **Article - Education**

17 12-110.

18 (a) (1) Upon the recommendation of the Chancellor who shall consult with

19 the presidents, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF TITLE 3 OF THE

20 STATE PERSONNEL AND PENSIONS ARTICLE, the Board of Regents shall establish

21 general standards and guidelines governing the appointment, compensation,

22 advancement, tenure, and termination of all faculty and administrative personnel in

23 the University System of Maryland.

24 (2) These standards and guidelines shall recognize the diverse missions 25 of the constituent institutions.

26 (3) ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CHANCELLOR WHO SHALL
27 CONSULT WITH THE PRESIDENTS, THE BOARD OF REGENTS SHALL DESIGNATE ONE
28 OR MORE REPRESENTATIVES TO PARTICIPATE AS A PARTY IN COLLECTIVE
29 BARGAINING ON BEHALF OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND.

30 (b) The Board of Regents may establish different standards of compensation31 based on the size and missions of the constituent institutions.

32 (c) Subject to such standards and guidelines, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
 33 REQUIREMENTS OF TITLE 3 OF THE STATE PERSONNEL AND PENSIONS ARTICLE, a
 34 president may:

35 (1) Prescribe additional personnel policies; and

1 (2) Approve individual personnel actions affecting the terms and 2 conditions of academic and administrative appointments.

3 12-111.

4 (a) Except as otherwise provided by law, appointments of the University
5 System of Maryland are not subject to or controlled by the provisions of the State
6 Personnel and Pensions Article that govern the State Personnel Management System.

7 (b) After appointment, employees in positions designated by the University
8 shall be regarded and treated in the same manner as skilled service or professional
9 service employees, with the exception of special appointments, in the State Personnel
10 Management System and:

(1) Have all rights and privileges of skilled service or professional service
employees, with the exception of special appointments, in the State Personnel
Management System;

14 (2) Have the right of appeal as provided by law, in any case of alleged 15 injustice;

16 (3) Shall be paid salaries not less than those paid in similar17 classifications in other State agencies; and

18 (4) Shall retain their vacation privileges, retirement status, and benefits19 under the State retirement systems.

20 (c) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE

21 REQUIREMENTS OF TITLE 3 OF THE STATE PERSONNEL AND PENSIONS ARTICLE, the

22 Board of Regents shall establish general policies and guidelines governing the

23 appointment, compensation, advancement, tenure, and termination of all classified

24 personnel.

25 14-104.

26 (f) (1) (i) On the recommendation of the President, AND IN ACCORDANCE

27 WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF TITLE 3 OF THE STATE PERSONNEL AND PENSIONS

28 ARTICLE, the Board of Regents shall establish general standards and guidelines

29 governing the appointment, compensation, advancement, tenure, and termination of

30 all faculty, executive staff, and professional administrative personnel in the Morgan

31 State University.

32 (ii) Subject to such standards and guidelines, AND IN ACCORDANCE
33 WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF TITLE 3 OF THE STATE PERSONNEL AND PENSIONS
34 ARTICLE, the President may:

351.Adopt additional personnel policies; and

Approve individual personnel actions affecting the terms
 and conditions of academic and administrative appointments.

Except as otherwise provided by law, appointments of Morgan State

2 University are not subject to or controlled by the provisions of the State Personnel 3 and Pensions Article that govern the State Personnel Management System. 4 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Board of (3)(i) 5 Regents may create any position to the extent that the cost of the position, including 6 any fringe benefit costs, is funded from existing funds. 7 Nothing in this paragraph may be construed to require any (ii) 8 additional State General Fund support. 9 By September 1 of each year, the Board shall submit an annual (iii) 10 position accountability report to the Department of Budget and Management, the 11 Department of Legislative Services, and the Maryland Higher Education Commission 12 reporting the total positions created and the cost and the funding source for any 13 positions created by the University in the previous fiscal year. 14 The total number of positions authorized under this paragraph (iv) 15 shall be limited as specified annually in the State budget bill. ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PRESIDENT, THE BOARD OF 16 (4)17 REGENTS SHALL DESIGNATE ONE OR MORE REPRESENTATIVES TO PARTICIPATE AS 18 A PARTY IN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING ON BEHALF OF THE UNIVERSITY. 19 (g) (1)After appointment, employees in positions designated by the 20 University shall be regarded and treated in the same manner as skilled service or 21 professional service employees, with the exception of special appointments, in the 22 State Personnel Management System and: 23 (i) Have all rights and privileges of skilled service or professional 24 service employees, with the exception of special appointments, in the State Personnel 25 Management System; Have the right of appeal as provided by law in any case of 26 (ii) alleged injustice; 27 28 (iii) Shall be paid salaries not less than those paid in similar 29 classifications in other State agencies; and 30 Shall retain their vacation privileges, accrued sick leave, (iv) 31 retirement status, and benefits under the State retirement systems. 32 Subject to paragraph (1) of this subsection, AND IN ACCORDANCE (2)33 WITH THE REOUIREMENTS OF TITLE 3 OF THE STATE PERSONNEL AND PENSIONS 34 ARTICLE, the Board of Regents shall establish general policies and guidelines 35 governing the appointment, compensation, advancement, tenure, and termination of 36 all classified personnel.

4

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(2)

2 On the recommendation of the President, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH (a) (1)3 THE REQUIREMENTS OF TITLE 3 OF THE STATE PERSONNEL AND PENSIONS ARTICLE, 4 the Board of Trustees of St. Mary's College shall establish a personnel system. 5 (2)To carry out the requirements of this section, the Board [may]: [Establish] MAY ESTABLISH and abolish positions; 6 (i) 7 (ii) [Determine] MAY DETERMINE employee qualifications; 8 (iii) [Establish] MAY ESTABLISH terms of employment, including 9 compensation, benefits, holiday schedules, and leave policies; [and] 10 (iv) [Determine] MAY DETERMINE any other matters concerning 11 employees; AND 12 SHALL DESIGNATE ONE OR MORE REPRESENTATIVES TO (V) 13 PARTICIPATE AS A PARTY IN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING ON BEHALF OF THE COLLEGE 14 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF TITLE 3 OF THE STATE PERSONNEL 15 AND PENSIONS ARTICLE. (b) The personnel system shall provide fair and equitable procedures for: 16 17 (1)The redress of employee grievances; and 18 (2)The hiring, promotion, and termination of employees in accordance 19 with law. 20 (c) (1)Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, an employee of 21 the College qualifies for and shall participate in the Employees' Pension System of the 22 State of Maryland or the Teachers' Pension System of the State of Maryland. 23 An employee in a position determined by the Board to be a (2)24 professional or faculty position may join the optional retirement program under Title 25 30 of the State Personnel and Pensions Article. **Article - State Personnel and Pensions** 26 27 3-102. Except as provided in this title or as otherwise provided by law, this title 28 (a) 29 applies to all employees of: 30 the principal departments within the Executive Branch of State (1)31 government; 32 (2)the Maryland Insurance Administration; 33 (3) the State Department of Assessments and Taxation; [and]

1 14-408.

1	(4)	the Sta	ate Lottery Agency; AND	
<ul> <li>2 (5) THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND, MORGAN STATE</li> <li>3 UNIVERSITY, ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND, AND BALTIMORE CITY</li> <li>4 COMMUNITY COLLEGE.</li> </ul>				
5 (b)	This ti	tle does n	not apply to:	
6 7 defined in	(1) § 7-601(a		yees of the Mass Transit Administration, as that term is term is transportation Article;	
8	(2)	an emp	ployee who is elected to the position by popular vote;	
9 10 for by the	(3) Marylanc		ployee in a position by election or appointment that is provided ution;	
11	(4)	an emp	ployee who is:	
12 13 System; or	r	(i)	a special appointee in the State Personnel Management	
14 (ii) 1. directly appointed by the Governor by an appointment that is 15 not provided for by the Maryland Constitution;				
16 17 Governor;	or		2. appointed by or on the staff of the Governor or Lieutenant	
18 19 Office;			3. assigned to the Government House or the Governor's	
20 21 Board;	(5)	an emp	ployee assigned to the Board or with access to records of the	
22	(6)	an emp	ployee in:	
23 24 System; or	r	(i)	the executive service of the State Personnel Management	
25 26 system wh	io is:	(ii)	a unit of the Executive Branch with an independent personnel	
<ul><li>27</li><li>28 position th</li><li>29 elected off</li></ul>		excluded	1. the chief administrator of the unit or a comparable under item (3) of this subsection as a constitutional or	
30 31 comparabl	le position	1;	2. a deputy or assistant administrator of the unit or a	
32 33 Manageme	(7) ent Syster	(i) n; or	a temporary or contractual employee in the State Personnel	

7	HOUSE BILL 300			
1 2 the Executive Branch	(ii) a contractual, temporary, or emergency employee in a unit of a with an independent personnel system;			
3 (8) 4 under another law;	an employee who is entitled to participate in collective bargaining			
5 (9) AN EMPLOYEE OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND, 6 MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND, OR BALTIMORE 7 CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE WHO IS:				
8	(I) A CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR OR IN A COMPARABLE POSITION;			
9 10 COMPARABLE PC	(II) A DEPUTY, ASSOCIATE, OR ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OR IN A DSITION;			
11 12 LIBRARIAN;	(III) A MEMBER OF THE FACULTY, INCLUDING A FACULTY			
13 14 OR A COMPARAB	(IV) A STUDENT EMPLOYEE, INCLUDING A TEACHING ASSISTANT LE POSITION, FELLOW, OR POST DOCTORAL INTERN;			
15 16 EMPLOYEE WITH	(V) A CONTINGENT, CONTRACTUAL, TEMPORARY, OR EMERGENCY LESS THAN 2 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS SERVICE;			
17 18 WHOSE POSITION 19 THROUGH CLINIC	(VI) A CONTINGENT, CONTRACTUAL OR TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE I IS FUNDED THROUGH A RESEARCH OR SERVICE GRANT OR CAL REVENUES; OR			
20 21 OUTSIDE THE STA	(VII) AN EMPLOYEE WHOSE REGULAR PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT IS ATE OF MARYLAND;			
22 (10) 23 BALTIMORE CITY	AN EMPLOYEE OF A COMMUNITY COLLEGE OTHER THAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE;			
24[(9)]25be contrary to the St	(11) an employee whose participation in a labor organization would ate's ethics laws; or			
26[(10)]27defined by regulation	(12) any supervisory, managerial, or confidential employee as n by the Secretary.			
28 3-206.				
29 (a) The Bo	ard is responsible for administering and enforcing this title.			
30 (b) In addit 31 title, the Board may:	tion to any other powers or duties provided for elsewhere in this			
32 (1) 33 include a considerati	(i) establish guidelines for creating new bargaining units that			
34	1. the effect of overfragmentation on the employer;			

**HOUSE BILL 300** 1 2. the administrative structures of the State employer; 2 3. the recommendations of the parties; 3 4. the recommendations of the Secretary; 5. the desires of the employees involved; 4 5 6. the communities of interest of the employees involved; and the wages, hours, and other working conditions of the 6 7. 7 employees; 8 (ii) establish standards for determining an appropriate bargaining 9 unit; [and] 10 (iii) investigate and resolve disputes about appropriate bargaining 11 units INCLUDING THE ASSIGNMENT OF CLASSIFICATION TITLES; AND 12 PRIOR TO THE CERTIFICATION OF EXCLUSIVE (IV) 13 REPRESENTATIVES, INVESTIGATE AND RESOLVE DISPUTES ABOUT PERMISSIBLE 14 LABOR-RELATED ACTIVITIES ON THE WORK SITE. 15 establish procedures for, supervise the conduct of, and resolve (2)16 disputes about elections for exclusive representatives; and 17 (3)investigate and take appropriate action in response to complaints of 18 unfair labor practices and lockouts. 19 3-207. 20 The Secretary may adopt and enforce regulations, guidelines, and policies to 21 carry out this title which[: 22 define unfair labor practices[; and (1)] establish permissible labor-related activities on the work site]. 23 (2)24 3-401. 25 Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, the Board shall conduct an (a) 26 election for an exclusive representative of a bargaining unit if: a valid petition is filed in accordance with § 3-402 of this subtitle; 27 (1)28 and

29 (2) the bargaining unit involved in the petition is determined to be an 30 appropriate bargaining unit under § 3-403 of this subtitle.

1 (b) The Board may not conduct an election for an exclusive representative of a

2 bargaining unit if the Board has CONDUCTED AN ELECTION OR certified an exclusive

3 representative for that bargaining unit within the preceding 2 years.

4 3-403.

5 (a) (1) [The] EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS TITLE, THE Board 6 shall determine the appropriateness of each bargaining unit.

7 (2) If there is no dispute about the appropriateness of the establishment
8 of the bargaining unit, the Board shall issue an order defining an appropriate
9 bargaining unit.

10 (3) If there is a dispute about the appropriateness of the establishment of 11 the bargaining unit, the Board shall:

12

conduct a hearing; and

13 (ii) issue an order defining an appropriate bargaining unit.

14 (b) If the appropriate bargaining unit as determined by the Board differs from 15 the bargaining unit described in the petition, the Board may:

16 (1) dismiss the petition; or

(i)

17 (2) direct an election in the appropriate bargaining unit if the signatures 18 included in the petition include those of at least 30% of the employees in the 19 appropriate bargaining unit.

20 (c) A bargaining unit shall consist only of employees defined in regulations 21 adopted by the Secretary and not specifically excluded by § 3-102(b) of this title.

# (D) (1) THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND, MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND, AND BALTIMORE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE EACH SHALL HAVE SEPARATE BARGAINING UNITS.

25 (2) APPROPRIATE BARGAINING UNITS SHALL CONSIST OF:

26 (I) ALL ELIGIBLE LABOR AND TRADES EMPLOYEES;

27 (II) ALL ELIGIBLE ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL, AND CLERICAL
 28 EMPLOYEES EXCEPT PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES, AS DEFINED BY THE BOARD;

29 (III) ALL ELIGIBLE PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES, AS DEFINED BY 30 THE BOARD; AND

31 (IV) ALL ELIGIBLE SWORN POLICE OFFICERS.

- 32 [(d)] (E) (1) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS
- 33 SUBSECTION, THE Secretary or the Secretary's designee shall have the authority to

34 assign classification titles and positions to bargaining units as appropriate.

# (2) THE GOVERNING BOARD OF A STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO ASSIGN CLASSIFICATION TITLES AND POSITIONS TO BARGAINING UNITS IN THAT INSTITUTION AS APPROPRIATE.

4 3-406.

5 (a) The Board shall certify as exclusive representative the employee 6 organization receiving the votes in an election from a majority of the employees 7 voting in the election.

8 [(b) Without conducting an election, the Board shall certify as exclusive 9 representative the employee organization designated in the petition filed under § 10 3-402 of this subtitle, if:

11 (1) that organization is the only employee organization that would be 12 named on a ballot in an election; and

13 (2) the organization files with the Board a certification that a majority of 14 the employees in the bargaining unit want to be represented by that organization.]

15 [(c)] (B) After notice and an opportunity for a hearing, the Board may deny or 16 revoke certification as exclusive representative of an employee organization for 17 willful failure to comply with:

18 (1) this title; or

19 (2) the governing documents of the organization.

20 3-501.

(a) (1) The Governor OR THE GOVERNING BOARD OF A STATE INSTITUTION
OF HIGHER EDUCATION shall designate one or more representatives to participate as
a party in collective bargaining on behalf of the State OR THE STATE INSTITUTION OF
HIGHER EDUCATION.

25 (2) The exclusive representative shall designate one or more 26 representatives to participate as a party in collective bargaining on behalf of the

27 exclusive representative.

(b) The parties shall meet at reasonable times and engage in collective29 bargaining in good faith.

30 (c) The parties shall make every reasonable effort to conclude negotiations in
31 a timely manner for inclusion by the principal unit in its budget request to the
32 Governor.

33 (d) (1) The parties, the Governor's designee OR THE DESIGNEE OF THE

34 GOVERNING BOARD OF A STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, and the

35 exclusive representative shall execute a memorandum of understanding

36 incorporating all matters of agreement reached.

1 (2) To the extent these matters require legislative approval or the 2 appropriation of funds, the matters shall be recommended to the General Assembly 3 for approval or for the appropriation of funds.

4 (3) TO THE EXTENT MATTERS INVOLVING A STATE INSTITUTION OF 5 HIGHER EDUCATION REQUIRE THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS, SUCH FUNDS SHALL 6 BE INCLUDED IN THE GOVERNING BOARD'S BUDGET REQUEST TO THE GOVERNOR.

7 (4) TO THE EXTENT MATTERS INVOLVING A STATE INSTITUTION OF
8 HIGHER EDUCATION REQUIRE LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL, THE LEGISLATION SHALL BE
9 RECOMMENDED TO THE GOVERNOR FOR SUBMISSION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

(E) AT THE REQUEST OF EITHER THE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE OR THE
 BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND, THE PARTIES
 SHALL NEGOTIATE A SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON ANY
 ISSUE AT INSTITUTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND.

14 [(e)] (F) Negotiations or matters relating to negotiations shall be considered 15 closed sessions under § 10-508 of the State Government Article.

16 3-502.

17 (a) Collective bargaining shall include all matters relating to wages, hours,18 and other terms and conditions of employment.

19 (b) Collective bargaining may not include negotiations relating to the right of 20 an employee organization to receive service fees from nonmembers.

21 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the Governor or the
22 Governor's designee AND THE GOVERNING BOARD OF A STATE INSTITUTION OF
23 HIGHER EDUCATION OR ITS DESIGNEE:

24 (1) shall not be required to negotiate over any matter that is inconsistent 25 with applicable law; and

26 (2) may negotiate and reach agreement with regard to any such matter 27 only if it is understood that the agreement with respect to such matter cannot become 28 effective unless the applicable law is amended by the General Assembly.

29 3-601.

30 (a) (1) A memorandum of understanding shall contain all matters of 31 agreement reached in the collective bargaining process.

32 (2) The memorandum shall be in writing and signed by the designated

33 representatives of the Governor OR THE GOVERNING BOARD OF A STATE34 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION and the exclusive representative involved in

35 the collective bargaining negotiations.

1 (b) No memorandum of understanding is valid if it extends for less than 1 year 2 or for more than 3 years.

3 (c) (1) A memorandum of understanding is not effective until it is ratified by 4 the Governor and a majority of the votes cast by the employees in the bargaining unit.

5 (2) IN THE CASE OF A STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, A
6 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IS NOT EFFECTIVE UNTIL IT IS RATIFIED BY
7 THE INSTITUTION'S GOVERNING BOARD AND:

8 (I) A MAJORITY OF THE VOTES CAST BY THE EMPLOYEES IN THE 9 BARGAINING UNIT; OR

(II) FOR A SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
 UNDER § 3-501(E) OF THIS TITLE, A MAJORITY OF VOTES CAST BY THE AFFECTED
 EMPLOYEES IN THE BARGAINING UNIT AT THE INSTITUTION INVOLVED.

13

### Chapter 298 of the Acts of 1999

[SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Board of Regents of
the University System of Maryland may not establish or implement a collective
bargaining plan for the system's nonfaculty employees. The prohibition established
under this Section supersedes any provision of law relating to the requirement for the
establishment and implementation of a collective bargaining plan as set forth in
Chapter(s) 515 (S.B. 682/H.B. 1026) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1999.]

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 21 October 1, 2001.