

SENATE BILL 618

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2001 Regular Session
(11r1875)

ENROLLED BILL

-- Economic and Environmental Affairs/Ways and Means --

Introduced by **Senator Hollinger**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, ____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education - Nursing Scholarships - Awards**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing the maximum annual award and the maximum total
4 award for a nursing scholarship under the program of Economic Development
5 Student Assistance Grants; increasing the maximum annual award and the
6 maximum total award for an additional grant that may be awarded to nursing
7 scholarship recipients under the program; *increasing the maximum award of a*
8 *nursing scholarship for certain nursing students*; and generally relating to
9 nursing scholarships under the program of Economic Development Student
10 Assistance Grants.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article - Education
13 Section 18-706
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

3 **Article - Education**

4 18-706.

5 (a) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

6 (1) "Eligible organization" means an institution, including a licensed
7 hospital, nursing home, adult day care center, public health agency, home health
8 agency, or other organization authorized by the Secretary of Health and Mental
9 Hygiene.

10 (2) "Eligible institution" means an institution of postsecondary
11 education:

12 (i) Approved to operate by the Maryland Higher Education
13 Commission; and

14 (ii) That awards nursing degrees or diplomas.

15 (3) "Nursing shortage area" means a recognized area of nursing service
16 or specialization determined by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to be an
17 area where there exists a shortage of qualified nurses in eligible organizations.

18 (4) "Nursing student" means a student enrolled in a postsecondary
19 nursing education degree or diploma program at an eligible institution.

20 (5) "Service obligation" means employment as a nurse in a nursing
21 shortage area in an eligible organization.

22 (b) (1) Economic Development Student Assistance Grants may be awarded
23 as scholarships for nursing students in nursing shortage areas.

24 (2) (i) The nursing scholarship awarded under this section shall be in
25 the amount of tuition and fees not to exceed [\$2,400] ~~\$4,000~~ \$3,000 annually for a
26 full-time student or a prorated award according to the number of credit hours taken
27 by a part-time student.

28 (ii) Each award shall be renewable on an annual basis up to a
29 maximum amount of [\$9,600] ~~\$16,000~~ \$12,000, if the recipient:

30 1. Remains a resident of this State;

31 2. Enrolls in an eligible institution;

32 3. Maintains a grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0
33 scale or its equivalent; and

1 4. Makes satisfactory progress toward the nursing degree or
2 diploma according to the standards of the eligible institution attended.

3 (3) (I) FOR A NURSING STUDENT ENROLLED IN A NURSING PROGRAM,
4 INCLUDING MANDATORY SUMMER ACADEMIC SESSIONS THAT ARE A REQUIRED
5 PART OF THE APPROVED CURRICULUM, THE NURSING SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED
6 UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE IN THE AMOUNT OF TUITION AND FEES NOT TO
7 EXCEED \$4,500 PER CALENDAR YEAR.

8 (II) EACH AWARD SHALL BE RENEWABLE ON AN ANNUAL BASIS UP
9 TO A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF \$12,000, IF THE RECIPIENT:

10 1. REMAINS A RESIDENT OF THE STATE;

11 2. ENROLLS IN A NURSING PROGRAM AT AN ELIGIBLE
12 INSTITUTION;

13 3. MAINTAINS A GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF AT LEAST 3.0 ON
14 A 4.0 SCALE OR ITS EQUIVALENT; AND

15 4. MAKES SATISFACTORY PROGRESS TOWARD THE NURSING
16 DEGREE OR DIPLOMA ACCORDING TO THE STANDARDS OF THE ELIGIBLE
17 INSTITUTION ATTENDED.

18 (c) Each recipient of the nursing scholarship awarded under this section shall:

19 (1) Be a nursing student;

20 (2) Have a grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or its
21 equivalent;

22 (3) Be selected by the Administration on a competitive basis from among
23 the qualified applicants based on academic criteria established by the Commission;
24 and

25 (4) Perform the service obligation.

26 (d) (1) Each recipient of a nursing scholarship awarded under this section
27 may be entitled, based on financial need, to an additional grant to meet living costs
28 not to exceed [\$2,400] ~~\$4,000~~ \$3,000 annually for a full-time student or a prorated
29 award according to the number of credit hours taken by a part-time student.

30 (2) Each additional grant shall be renewable on an annual basis up to a
31 maximum amount of [\$9,600] ~~\$16,000~~ \$12,000, if the recipient meets the
32 requirements for continuing the scholarship award under subsection (b)(2)(ii) of this
33 section.

34 (3) The Administration shall require a recipient of a nursing scholarship
35 who seeks an additional grant for living costs to provide information to the
36 Administration sufficient to assure that the student has a definite financial need.

1 (e) The Commission shall establish and publish rules and regulations to
2 administer the grants awarded under this section.

3 (f) Funds for the nursing scholarships awarded under this section shall be as
4 provided in the annual budget of the Commission by the Governor.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 July 1, 2001.