
By: **Senator Hollinger**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2001

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

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; and generally relating to nursing
8 scholarships under the program of Economic Development Student Assistance
9 Grants.

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

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

17 **Article - Education**

18 18-706.

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

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

24 (2) "Eligible institution" means an institution of postsecondary
25 education:

26 (i) Approved to operate by the Maryland Higher Education
27 Commission; and

1 (ii) That awards nursing degrees or diplomas.

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

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

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

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

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

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

17 1. Remains a resident of this State;

18 2. Enrolls in an eligible institution;

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

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

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

24 (1) Be a nursing student;

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

27 (3) Be selected by the Administration on a competitive basis from among
28 the qualified applicants based on academic criteria established by the Commission;
29 and

30 (4) Perform the service obligation.

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

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

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

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

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

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