

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegates Leopold, Owings, Conroy, Love, Sophocleus, Boschert,
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Hecht, Giannetti, Heller, Hutchins, Hubbard, James, McClenahan,
Minnick, Mohorovic, Montague, Riley, Stocksdale, Vallario, Wood, and
Mandel**

Requested: September 24, 2001
Introduced and read first time: January 9, 2002
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education - Edward T. Conroy Memorial Scholarship Program -**
3 **Eligibility**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the eligibility requirements of the Edward T. Conroy
5 Memorial Scholarship Program to include certain survivors of Maryland
6 residents killed in certain terrorist attacks; altering the percentage of
7 service-related disability a veteran must suffer to be eligible for the Program;
8 and generally relating to the Edward T. Conroy Memorial Scholarship Program.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Education
11 Section 18-601
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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 18-601.

18 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

19 (2) "Disabled public safety employee" means a State or local public safety
20 employee who sustains an injury in the line of duty that:

21 (i) Precludes the individual from continuing to serve or be
22 employed as a State or local public safety employee; and

1 (ii) In the case of a volunteer member of a fire department or
2 ambulance or rescue company or squad, precludes the member from continuing to be
3 employed in the nonpublic safety occupation in which the member is engaged at the
4 time of the injury.

5 (3) "Surviving spouse" means a person who has not remarried.

6 (4) "State or local public safety employee" means a person who is:

7 (i) A career or volunteer member of a:

8 1. Fire department;

9 2. Ambulance company or squad; or

10 3. Rescue company or squad;

11 (ii) A law enforcement officer;

12 (iii) A correctional officer; or

13 (iv) A member of the Maryland National Guard who was a resident
14 of this State at the time of death.

15 (5) "TERRORIST ATTACK" INCLUDES THE UNLAWFUL USE OF FORCE AND
16 VIOLENCE AGAINST PERSONS OR PROPERTY TO INTIMIDATE OR COERCE A
17 GOVERNMENT, THE CIVILIAN POPULATION, OR ANY SEGMENT THEREOF, IN
18 FURTHERANCE OF POLITICAL OR SOCIAL OBJECTIVES, AS DEFINED IN 28 C.F.R.
19 0.85(K)(1).

20 (6) "VICTIM OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 TERRORIST ATTACKS"
21 INCLUDES A PERSON WHO IS A MARYLAND RESIDENT KILLED AS A RESULT OF THE
22 ATTACKS ON THE WORLD TRADE CENTER IN NEW YORK CITY, THE PENTAGON IN
23 VIRGINIA, AND THE CRASH OF UNITED AIRLINES FLIGHT 93 IN PENNSYLVANIA.

24 (b) There is a program of scholarships that are awarded under this section.

25 (c) The Program is the Edward T. Conroy Memorial Scholarship Program.

26 (d) A person may apply to the Administration for a scholarship under this
27 section if the person:

28 (1) Is a resident of Maryland;

29 (2) (i) Is accepted for admission or enrolled in the regular
30 undergraduate, graduate or professional program at an eligible institution; or

31 (ii) Is enrolled in a 2-year terminal certificate program in which
32 the course work is acceptable for transfer credit for an accredited baccalaureate
33 program in an eligible institution; and

1 (3) Is at least 16 years old and a son or daughter of a member of the
2 armed forces who was a resident of this State at the time the parent:

3 (i) Died or was totally and permanently disabled as a result of
4 military service after December 7, 1941; or

5 (ii) Was declared to be a prisoner of war or missing in action, if that
6 occurred on or after January 1, 1960 as a result of the Vietnam conflict, and if the
7 child was born prior to or while the parent was a prisoner of war or missing in action;

8 (4) Was a prisoner of war on or after January 1, 1960 as a result of the
9 Vietnam conflict and was a resident of this State at the time the person was declared
10 to be a prisoner of war or missing in action;

11 (5) (i) Is at least 16 years old and a son or daughter of any State or
12 local public safety employee killed in the line of duty; or

13 (ii) Is the surviving spouse of any State or local public safety
14 employee killed in the line of duty;

15 (6) Is a disabled public safety employee; [or]

16 (7) Is a veteran, as defined under § 9-901 of the State Government
17 Article, who:

18 (i) Suffers a service-related disability of [50%] 25% or greater; and

19 (ii) Has exhausted or is no longer eligible for federal veterans'
20 educational benefits[.]; OR

21 (8) IS AT LEAST 16 YEARS OLD AND A SON OR DAUGHTER OF OR THE
22 SURVIVING SPOUSE OF A VICTIM OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 TERRORIST ATTACKS
23 OR A VICTIM OF ANY SUBSEQUENT TERRORIST ATTACKS.

24 (e) A scholarship awarded under this section:

25 (1) May be used for the tuition and mandatory fees at any eligible
26 institution; and

27 (2) May not:

28 (i) Exceed the equivalent annual tuition and mandatory fees of a
29 resident undergraduate student at the University of Maryland, College Park; and

30 (ii) Be less than the lesser of:

31 1. \$3,000; or

32 2. The equivalent annual tuition and mandatory fees of a
33 resident of the institution attended by the recipient of the scholarship.

1 (f) (1) Each recipient of a scholarship under this section may hold the award
2 for 5 years of full-time study or 8 years of part-time study.

3 (2) The Administration may not award more than 15 scholarships
4 annually under subsection (d)(7) of this section.

5 (g) The Commission:

6 (1) May accept any gift or grant from any person for the Edward T.
7 Conroy Scholarship Fund;

8 (2) Shall use any gift or grant that it receives for a scholarship from the
9 Program; and

10 (3) Shall deposit any gift or grant that it receives for the Program with
11 the State Treasurer in a nonbudgeted account.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 October 1, 2002.