

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Chairman, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee**
(Departmental - University System of Maryland)

Requested: November 14, 2001

Introduced and read first time: January 9, 2002

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education - University System of Maryland - Approval of New**
3 **Programs - Sunset Extension**

4 FOR the purpose of extending to a certain date the termination of certain provisions
5 relating to procedures for the approval of new programs at constituent
6 institutions of the University System of Maryland; extending the date for
7 submitting a certain report; and generally relating to procedures for the
8 approval of new programs at constituent institutions of the University System of
9 Maryland.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article - Education
12 Section 11-206.1
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2001 Replacement Volume)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
16 Article - Education
17 Section 12-106(d) and (e)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2001 Replacement Volume)

20 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
21 Chapter 515 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1999
22 Section 11

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

1

Article - Education

2 11-206.1.

3 (a) (1) A president of a constituent institution of the University System of
4 Maryland may propose to establish a new program or abolish an existing program if
5 the action:

6 (i) Is consistent with the institution's adopted mission statement
7 under Subtitle 3 of this title; and

8 (ii) Can be implemented within the existing program resources of
9 the institution.

10 (2) The president shall report any programs that are proposed to be
11 established or abolished in accordance with paragraph (1) of this subsection to:

12 (i) The institution's governing board; and

13 (ii) The Maryland Higher Education Commission.

14 (3) Upon receipt of a proposed new program, the Commission shall notify
15 all other institutions of higher education in the State.

16 (b) The institution's governing board shall:

17 (1) Review the actions taken under subsection (a) of this section;

18 (2) Ensure that any new program proposed to be established by a
19 president:

20 (i) Is consistent with the institution's approved mission statement
21 under Subtitle 3 of this title; and

22 (ii) Can be implemented within the existing program resources of
23 the institution; and

24 (3) Approve the proposed new program within 60 days if the program
25 meets the criteria in paragraph (2) of this subsection, subject to the provisions of
26 subsections (c) and (d) of this section.

27 (c) Within 30 days of receipt of a notice of an institution's intent to establish a
28 new program in accordance with subsection (a) of this section, the Commission may
29 file, or the institutions of higher education in the State may file with the Commission,
30 an objection to implementation of a proposed program provided the objection is based
31 on:

32 (1) Inconsistency of the proposed program with the institution's
33 approved mission;

1 (2) Unreasonable program duplication which would cause demonstrable
2 harm to another institution; or

3 (3) Violation of the State's equal educational opportunity obligations
4 under State and federal law.

5 (d) (1) If an objection is filed under subsection (c) of this section by the
6 Commission or an institution within 30 days of receipt of a notice of an institution's
7 intent to establish a new program, the Commission shall immediately notify the
8 institution's governing board and president.

9 (2) The Commission shall determine if an institution's objection is
10 justified based on the criteria in subsection (c) of this section.

11 (3) An objection shall be accompanied by detailed information
12 supporting the reasons for the objection.

13 (4) If the Commission determines that an objection is justified, the
14 Commission shall negotiate with the institution's governing board and president to
15 modify the proposed program in order to resolve the objection.

16 (5) If the objection cannot be resolved within 30 days of receipt of an
17 objection, the Commission shall make a final determination on approval of the new
18 program.

19 (e) (1) The Commission shall:

20 (i) Identify programs established under subsection (a) of this
21 section that are inconsistent with the State Plan for Higher Education; and

22 (ii) Identify low productivity programs.

23 (2) If the Commission identifies any programs that meet the criteria set
24 forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Commission shall notify the president of
25 the institution.

26 (f) The Commission and the governing boards of the public institutions of
27 higher education shall jointly develop a definition and accepted criteria for
28 determining low productivity programs.

29 (g) The Commission shall:

30 (1) Monitor the program development and review process established
31 under this section;

32 (2) Report annually to the Governor, the Board of Regents, and, in
33 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on
34 the nature and extent of any duplication or proliferation of programs; and

1 (3) On or before [January 1, 2002] JANUARY 1, 2004, submit a report to
2 the Governor, the Board of Regents, and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
3 Government Article, the General Assembly on:

4 (i) The impact of the program development and review process on
5 the quality and accessibility of postsecondary education in the State; and

6 (ii) Any increased costs due to duplication of programs.

7 12-106.

8 (d) With respect to each institution under its jurisdiction, and subject to the
9 provisions of Title 11 of this article, in consultation with the Chancellor, the Board
10 shall:

11 (1) Review each new program proposed to be established and
12 implemented within existing program resources in accordance with § 11-206.1 of this
13 article;

14 (2) Ensure that the new program:

15 (i) Is consistent with the institution's adopted mission statement
16 in accordance with Title 11, Subtitle 3 of this article; and

17 (ii) Can be implemented within existing program resources of the
18 institution; and

19 (3) Approve the proposed new program within 60 days if the program
20 meets the criteria in item (2) of this subsection, subject to the requirements of §
21 11-206.1(c) and (d) of this article.

22 (e) With respect to the program approval provisions in this title and Title 11 of
23 this article, the Board of Regents shall take action as a Board to approve or
24 disapprove a new program, and may consult with the Chancellor and appropriate
25 University staff.

26 **Chapter 515 of the Acts of 1999**

27 SECTION 11. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act
28 shall take effect July 1, 1999. It shall remain effective for a period of [3] 5 years and,
29 at the end of June 30, [2002] 2004, with no further action required by the General
30 Assembly, Section 2 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
32 July 1, 2002.