

SENATE BILL 568

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2003 Regular Session  
(3r1266)

**ENROLLED BILL**

-- Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Budget and Taxation/Appropriations --

Introduced by **Senators Pinsky and Lawlah**

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 - Educational Excellence Awards - Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a ~~minimum~~ at least a certain amount of funding  
4 appropriated annually for ~~Educational Assistance Grants~~ certain student  
5 financial assistance programs to be allocated to institutions of higher education  
6 in the State to fund Educational Excellence Awards; and generally relating to  
7 funding for Educational Excellence Awards.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article - Education  
10 Section 18-307  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

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

1 **Article - Education**

2 18-307.

3 (a) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the Office shall compile  
4 and certify lists for the entire State that rank applicants by financial need.

5 (b) All funds for annual initial grants shall be awarded from the statewide list  
6 on the basis of greatest financial need.

7 (c) On or before May 1 of each year, the Office shall send each Senator and  
8 each Delegate a list of individuals in each legislative district to whom Educational  
9 Excellence Awards are awarded.

10 (d) (1) (I) { If State funds are available for this purpose, institutions}  
11 ~~INSTITUTIONS~~ of higher education in the State may provide Educational Excellence  
12 Awards to students who otherwise meet the requirements for receiving an  
13 Educational Excellence Award but who apply after the March 1 deadline or have  
14 other extenuating circumstances.

15 (II) ~~AT LEAST \$3 MILLION OF THE TOTAL FUNDS APPROPRIATED~~  
16 ~~FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS SHALL BE ALLOCATED TO INSTITUTIONS~~  
17 ~~OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE~~  
18 ~~AWARDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION~~ EACH YEAR THE COMMISSION  
19 SHALL TRANSFER AT LEAST \$2 MILLION OF THE FUNDS AVAILABLE UNDER §  
20 18-107(B) OF THIS SUBTITLE FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION.

21 (2) The Commission shall:

22 (i) Establish guidelines for the awarding of Educational Excellence  
23 Awards by the institutions of higher education to the students; and

24 (ii) Adopt regulations necessary for the implementation of this  
25 subsection.

26 (3) (i) The Commission shall allocate available funds to institutions of  
27 higher education based on the proportion of State residents enrolled at each  
28 institution who receive federal Pell Grants.

29 (ii) An institution of higher education that receives funds under  
30 this paragraph shall provide the Commission with an annual audit describing the  
31 disposition of the funds.

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
33 ~~October~~ July 1, 2003.

