
By: **Delegate Rudolph**

Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2005

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education - Community Colleges and Regional Higher Education**
3 **Centers - Degree Programs**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the governing body of a regional higher education
5 center and the board of trustees of a community college to submit to the
6 Maryland Higher Education Commission requests for proposals for the offering
7 of certain baccalaureate degree programs; establishing certain requirements for
8 submitting certain requests for proposals to the Commission; authorizing
9 community colleges and regional higher education centers to submit to
10 out-of-State senior higher education institutions requests for proposals for the
11 offering of certain baccalaureate degree programs under certain circumstances;
12 requiring the Commission to adopt certain regulations; and generally relating to
13 the offering of baccalaureate degree programs at community colleges and
14 regional higher education centers.

15 BY adding to
16 Article - Education
17 Section 10-212(c) and 16-108
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

22 **Article - Education**

23 10-212.

24 (C) THE GOVERNING BODY OF A REGIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER MAY
25 SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE OFFERING OF A BACCALAUREATE
26 DEGREE PROGRAM AT THE CENTER IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 16-108 OF THIS ARTICLE.

1 16-108.

2 (A) (1) A BOARD OF TRUSTEES MAY SUBMIT TO THE COMMISSION A
3 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE OFFERING OF A BACCALAUREATE DEGREE
4 PROGRAM NOT CURRENTLY OFFERED IN THE REGION.

5 (2) THE COMMISSION SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE REQUEST FOR
6 PROPOSALS TO PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS AND NONPUBLIC
7 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

8 (B) BEFORE SUBMITTING A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS UNDER SUBSECTION
9 (A) OF THIS SECTION, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SHALL:

10 (1) SEEK INPUT FROM STUDENTS, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
11 COUNCILS, AND OTHER CIVIC, EDUCATIONAL, COMMUNITY, AND BUSINESS GROUPS
12 WHEN ASSESSING THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF THE REGION;

13 (2) DETERMINE THE REGIONAL OR STATEWIDE NEED FOR GRADUATES
14 OF EACH PROGRAM FOR WHICH A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS IS SUBMITTED;

15 (3) IDENTIFY THE ENROLLMENT PATTERNS, SPECIAL
16 CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDENTS, AND OTHER UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT
17 WOULD REQUIRE A PROGRAM TO BE OFFERED IN A PARTICULAR MANNER; AND

18 (4) DETERMINE THAT THE DEGREE PROGRAM IS NECESSARY TO MEET
19 THE ACADEMIC AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF THE REGION OR STATE.

20 (C) (1) THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MAY SUBMIT THE REQUEST FOR
21 PROPOSALS TO AN OUT-OF-STATE SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION IF
22 NONE OF THE SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN THE STATE RESPOND
23 TO THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS SUBMITTED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS
24 SECTION.

25 (2) BEFORE OFFERING A DEGREE PROGRAM THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF
26 THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS, AN OUT-OF-STATE SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION
27 INSTITUTION SHALL SEEK THE APPROVAL OF THE COMMISSION UNDER TITLE 11,
28 SUBTITLE 2 OF THIS ARTICLE.

29 (D) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE
30 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
32 October 1, 2005.