
By: **Harford County Delegation and Delegates Hammen, Barve, Benson, Boteler, Bromwell, Costa, Donoghue, Elliott, Frank, Hubbard, Kach, Kohl, Kullen, Mandel, McDonough, Morhaim, Murray, Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks, Pendergrass, Rudolph, V. Turner, and Weldon**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2006

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 22, 2006

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Volunteer Company Assistance Fund**
 3 **Education - Tuition Assistance Program for Firemen and Rescue Squad**
 4 **Members - Renaming**

5 FOR the purpose of renaming the ~~Volunteer Company Assistance Fund~~ tuition
 6 assistance program for firemen and rescue squad members as the Charles W.
 7 Riley ~~Volunteer Company Assistance Fund~~ Fire and Emergency Medical
 8 Services Tuition Reimbursement Program; authorizing the publishers of the
 9 Annotated Code of Maryland to correct certain statutory references under
 10 certain circumstances; and generally relating to the renaming of the ~~Volunteer~~
 11 ~~Company Assistance Fund~~ tuition assistance program for firemen and rescue
 12 squad members.

13 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~
 14 ~~Article – Public Safety~~
 15 ~~Section 8-201 and 8-202~~
 16 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
 17 ~~(2003 Volume and 2005 Supplement)~~

18 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,~~
 19 ~~Article – Transportation~~
 20 ~~Section 13-955(a)~~
 21 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
 22 ~~(2002 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)~~

1 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~
 2 ~~Article - Transportation~~
 3 ~~Section 13-955(e)~~
 4 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
 5 ~~(2002 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)~~

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 7 Article - Education
 8 Section 18-603
 9 Annotated Code of Maryland
 10 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

13 ~~Article - Public Safety~~

14 ~~8-201.~~

15 (a) ~~In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

16 (b) ~~"Association" means the Maryland State Firemen's Association.~~

17 (c) ~~"Department" means the Department of Budget and Management.~~

18 (d) ~~"Fund" means the CHARLES W. RILEY Volunteer Company Assistance~~
 19 ~~Fund.~~

20 (e) ~~"Volunteer company" means a volunteer ambulance, fire, or rescue~~
 21 ~~company located in the State.~~

22 ~~8-202.~~

23 (a) ~~There is a CHARLES W. RILEY Volunteer Company Assistance Fund.~~

24 (b) (1) ~~The Fund is a special, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to § 7-302~~
 25 ~~of the State Finance and Procurement Article.~~

26 (2) ~~The Treasurer shall hold the Fund separately and the Comptroller~~
 27 ~~shall account for the Fund.~~

28 (c) ~~After consultation with the Association, the Governor may include in the~~
 29 ~~State budget each year an appropriation to the Fund.~~

30 (d) (1) ~~Any investment earnings of the Fund shall be credited to the Fund.~~

31 (2) ~~Repayments on loans from the Fund shall be placed in the Fund and~~
 32 ~~made available to fund grant or loan requests.~~

- (e) For the purpose of making loans under this subtitle, the Association shall:
- (1) develop loan criteria;
 - (2) develop loan terms, including interest rates; and
 - (3) recommend to the Board of Public Works the approval or denial of loans.

~~Article - Transportation~~

7 ~~13-955.~~

(a) ~~In this section, "Fund" means the Maryland Emergency Medical System Operations Fund.~~

- (e) The money in the Fund shall be used solely for:
- (1) ~~Medically oriented functions of the Department of State Police, Special Operations Bureau, Aviation Division;~~
 - (2) ~~The Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems;~~
 - (3) ~~The R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center at the University of Maryland Medical System;~~
 - (4) ~~The Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute;~~
 - (5) ~~The provision of grants under the Senator William H. Amoss Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance Fund in accordance with the provisions of Title 8, Subtitle 1 of the Public Safety Article; and~~
 - (6) ~~The CHARLES W. RILEY Volunteer Company Assistance Fund in accordance with the provisions of Title 8, Subtitle 2 of the Public Safety Article.~~

Article - Education

23 18-603.

(a) There is a [program of tuition assistance] CHARLES W. RILEY FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TUITION REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM under this section.

(b) Any career or volunteer firefighter or ambulance or rescue squad member who is a resident of Maryland shall receive full and complete reimbursement by the Office for tuition costs not to exceed the resident tuition rates at the 4-year public institution of higher education within the University System of Maryland, other than the University of Maryland University College and University of Maryland, Baltimore, with the highest annual expenses for a full-time resident undergraduate,

1 for courses credited toward a degree in fire service technology or emergency medical
2 technology.

3 (c) (1) The tuition reimbursement application shall be filed with the Office
4 no later than July 1 immediately following the academic year for which tuition
5 reimbursement is sought.

6 (2) Payment shall be made 1 year after successful completion of each
7 academic year.

8 (3) Payment may be made only if the applicant is still employed or
9 actively engaged as a career or volunteer firefighter or ambulance or rescue squad
10 member in an organized fire department or ambulance or rescue squad in this State.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the publishers of the
12 Annotated Code of Maryland, subject to the approval of the Department of Legislative
13 Services, shall correct any statutory reference that is rendered incorrect by this Act.

14 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2006.