
By: **Senators Jacobs, Colburn, Forehand, Greenip, Hooper, Klausmeier,
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Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2006

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Institutions of Higher Education - Textbook Fairness Act**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the governing board of a public institution of higher
4 education to notify students of the textbooks assigned for certain courses on the
5 website of the institution at a certain time; requiring that the notification
6 contain certain information; prohibiting an employee of a public institution of
7 higher education from receiving certain benefits in exchange for requiring
8 students to purchase certain textbooks; and generally relating to textbooks
9 assigned for courses at public institutions of higher education.

10 BY adding to

11 Article - Education

12 Section 15-111

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

17 **Article - Education**

18 15-111.

19 (A) (1) THE GOVERNING BOARD OF A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
20 EDUCATION SHALL NOTIFY STUDENTS OF THE TEXTBOOKS ASSIGNED FOR EACH
21 COURSE OFFERED AT THE INSTITUTION BY LISTING EACH ASSIGNED TEXTBOOK ON
22 THE WEBSITE OF THE INSTITUTION WHEN THE COURSE INSTRUCTOR OR ACADEMIC
23 DEPARTMENT OFFERING THE COURSE IDENTIFIES THE TEXTBOOK FOR ORDER AND
24 SUBSEQUENT STUDENT PURCHASE.

25 (2) THE NOTIFICATION SHALL INCLUDE THE INTERNATIONAL
26 STANDARD BOOK NUMBER (ISBN) FOR EACH TEXTBOOK.

1 (B) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN
2 EMPLOYEE OF A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION MAY NOT DEMAND OR
3 RECEIVE ANY PAYMENT, LOAN, SUBSCRIPTION, ADVANCE, SERVICE, OR ANY OTHER
4 BENEFIT IN EXCHANGE FOR REQUIRING STUDENTS TO PURCHASE A SPECIFIC
5 TEXTBOOK FOR A COURSE.

6 (2) AN EMPLOYEE OF A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION
7 MAY RECEIVE:

8 (I) A COPY OF A TEXTBOOK THAT MAY NOT BE SOLD, INCLUDING A
9 SAMPLE COPY, INSTRUCTOR'S COPY, AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL; AND

10 (II) ROYALTIES OR OTHER COMPENSATION FROM THE SALE OF A
11 TEXTBOOK THAT INCLUDES THE WRITING OR WORK OF THE EMPLOYEE.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 July 1, 2006.