

ENROLLED BILL

-- *Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs/Appropriations and Health and Government Operations* --

Introduced by **The President (By Request - Administration) and Senators Kittleman, Brinkley, Colburn, Dyson, Harris, Hogan, Hooper, Kramer, Lawlah, Schrader, and Stoltzfus**

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 - Nurse Support Program Assistance Fund - Hospital**
3 **Rates**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Nurse Support Program Assistance Fund in the
5 Maryland Higher Education Commission; establishing a funding source for the
6 Fund; providing for expenditures from the Fund; requiring the Fund to be used
7 for certain purposes in accordance with certain guidelines; requiring the
8 guidelines to provide that a portion of certain grants be used for a certain
9 purpose; and generally relating to the Nurse Support Program Assistance Fund.

10 BY adding to
11 Article - Education
12 Section 11-404
13 Annotated Code of Maryland

1 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

4 **Article - Education**

5 11-404.

6 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "FUND" MEANS THE NURSE SUPPORT PROGRAM
7 ASSISTANCE FUND.

8 (B) (1) THERE IS A NURSE SUPPORT PROGRAM ASSISTANCE FUND IN THE
9 COMMISSION.

10 (2) THE FUND IS A CONTINUING, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT
11 SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

12 (3) THE TREASURER SHALL SEPARATELY HOLD AND THE COMPTROLLER
13 SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

14 (4) THE FUND SHALL BE INVESTED AND REINVESTED IN THE SAME
15 MANNER AS OTHER STATE FUNDS.

16 (5) ANY INVESTMENT EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE PAID INTO
17 THE FUND.

18 (C) THE FUND CONSISTS OF REVENUE GENERATED THROUGH AN INCREASE,
19 AS APPROVED BY THE HEALTH SERVICES COST REVIEW COMMISSION, TO THE RATE
20 STRUCTURE OF ALL HOSPITALS IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 19-211 OF THE HEALTH -
21 GENERAL ARTICLE.

22 (D) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND SHALL BE MADE BY AN APPROPRIATION
23 IN THE ANNUAL STATE BUDGET OR BY APPROVED BUDGET AMENDMENT AS
24 PROVIDED UNDER § 7-209 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

25 (E) THE MONEY IN THE FUND SHALL BE USED FOR COMPETITIVE GRANTS
26 AND STATEWIDE GRANTS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF QUALIFIED BEDSIDE
27 NURSES IN MARYLAND HOSPITALS IN ACCORDANCE WITH GUIDELINES
28 ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION AND THE HEALTH SERVICES COST REVIEW
29 COMMISSION.

30 (F) THE GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS
31 SECTION SHALL PROVIDE THAT A PORTION OF THE COMPETITIVE GRANTS AND
32 STATEWIDE GRANTS BE USED TO ATTRACT AND RETAIN MINORITIES TO NURSING
33 AND NURSE FACULTY CAREERS IN MARYLAND.

34 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
35 effect June 1, 2006.

