

HOUSE BILL 1068

F2

8lr2447

By: **Delegate Barnes**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2008

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education - College Textbooks - Disclosures and Sales**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a certain publisher of college textbooks to disclose
4 certain information about certain textbooks to prospective purchasers;
5 prohibiting the price of certain textbooks from being changed during a certain
6 period of time; requiring the governing body of public institutions of higher
7 education in the State to adopt certain procedures regarding the sale of certain
8 textbooks to certain students and requiring certain stores to sell certain
9 textbooks to certain students in accordance with certain procedures; and
10 generally relating to the disclosure of information by publishers of college
11 textbooks and sales of textbooks.

12 BY adding to

13 Article - Education

14 Section 15-111

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

19 **Article - Education**

20 **15-111.**

21 (A) (1) **EACH PUBLISHER OF COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS THAT OFFERS**
22 **TEXTBOOKS FOR SALE AT A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE**
23 **STATE SHALL DISCLOSE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT EACH**
24 **TEXTBOOK TO A PROSPECTIVE PURCHASER:**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(I) THE RETAIL PRICE A STUDENT WILL PAY FOR THE**
2 **TEXTBOOK IN THE BOOKSTORE;**

3 **(II) THE PUBLICATION DATE OF EACH PREVIOUS EDITION**
4 **OF THE TEXTBOOK, IF ANY; AND**

5 **(III) THE AVAILABILITY OF LOWER-PRICED VERSIONS OR**
6 **ALTERNATIVES, INCLUDING UNBUNDLED OR ON-LINE VERSIONS OF THE**
7 **TEXTBOOK, IF ANY.**

8 **(2) THE PRICE OF A TEXTBOOK QUOTED TO A BOOKSTORE BY A**
9 **PUBLISHER UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE**
10 **CHANGED DURING THE ACADEMIC TERM FOR WHICH THE TEXTBOOK IS**
11 **REQUIRED FOR COURSES OFFERED AT THE INSTITUTION.**

12 **(B) THE GOVERNING BODY OF EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER**
13 **EDUCATION IN THE STATE SHALL:**

14 **(1) ADOPT PROCEDURES THAT WOULD ALLOW A STUDENT WHO**
15 **HAS BEEN AWARDED FINANCIAL AID THAT HAS NOT BEEN DISBURSED TO THE**
16 **STUDENT AS OF THE START OF THE ACADEMIC TERM TO PURCHASE, DURING**
17 **THE FIRST WEEK OF THE ACADEMIC TERM, TEXTBOOKS REQUIRED FOR**
18 **COURSES OFFERED AT THE INSTITUTION AND TO PAY FOR THE TEXTBOOKS AT A**
19 **LATER DATE UPON DISBURSAL OF THE STUDENT'S FINANCIAL AID AWARD; AND**

20 **(2) REQUIRE ANY STORE THAT SELLS TEXTBOOKS REQUIRED FOR**
21 **COURSES OFFERED AT THE INSTITUTION THAT IS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF**
22 **THE INSTITUTION TO SELL TEXTBOOKS TO STUDENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH**
23 **THE PROCEDURES ADOPTED UNDER ITEM (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 July 1, 2008.