

# SENATE BILL 292

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By: **Senators Garagiola, Astle, Benson, Brinkley, Colburn, DeGrange, Dyson, Ferguson, Forehand, Frosh, Glassman, Jacobs, Jennings, Kasemeyer, King, Kittleman, Klausmeier, Madaleno, Manno, Mathias, Middleton, Miller, Muse, Peters, Pipkin, Pugh, Ramirez, Raskin, Robey, Rosapepe, Simonaire, Stone, Young, and Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2012

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship –**  
3 **Extension**

4 FOR the purpose of extending the date by which the Office of Student Financial  
5 Assistance may award an initial Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts  
6 Scholarship; extending the date by which the Office may renew a Veterans of  
7 the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship under certain circumstances;  
8 and generally relating to the Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts  
9 Scholarship.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article – Education  
12 Section 18–604  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 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 18–604.

19 (a) For purposes of this section, an individual served in the Afghanistan or  
20 Iraq conflict if the individual was a member of the uniform services of the United  
21 States who served in:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (1) Afghanistan or contiguous air space, as defined in federal  
2 regulations, on or after October 24, 2001, and before a terminal date to be prescribed  
3 by the United States Secretary of Defense; or

4 (2) Iraq or contiguous waters or air space, as defined in federal  
5 regulations, on or after March 19, 2003, and before a terminal date to be prescribed by  
6 the United States Secretary of Defense.

7 (b) There is a Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship.

8 (c) An individual may apply to the Office for a scholarship under this section  
9 if the individual:

10 (1) Is a resident of Maryland;

11 (2) (i) Is accepted for admission or enrolled in the regular  
12 undergraduate program at an eligible institution; or

13 (ii) Is accepted for admission or enrolled in a 2-year terminal  
14 certificate program in which the course work is acceptable for transfer credit for an  
15 accredited baccalaureate program in an eligible institution; and

16 (3) (i) 1. Is a veteran, as defined under § 9-901 of the State  
17 Government Article, who served in the Afghanistan or Iraq conflict;

18 2. Is an active duty member of the armed forces who  
19 served in the Afghanistan or Iraq conflict; or

20 3. Is a member of a reserve component of the armed  
21 forces of the United States or the Maryland National Guard who was activated as a  
22 result of the Afghanistan or Iraq conflict described in subsection (a) of this section; or

23 (ii) Is a son, daughter, or spouse of:

24 1. A veteran or active duty member of the armed forces  
25 who is serving or has served in the Afghanistan or Iraq conflict; or

26 2. A member of the reserve or Maryland National Guard  
27 who was activated as a result of the Afghanistan or Iraq conflict described in  
28 subsection (a) of this section.

29 (d) A scholarship awarded under this section shall supplement any federal  
30 education benefits for which a recipient qualifies as a result of an individual's military  
31 service or status as a dependent of a member of the armed forces or of a veteran of the  
32 armed forces.

1 (e) (1) Each scholarship may be used, at any eligible institution, to pay for  
2 educational expenses as defined by the Office, including:

3 (i) Tuition and mandatory fees; and

4 (ii) Room and board.

5 (2) The annual amount of a scholarship may not exceed 50% of the  
6 equivalent annual tuition, mandatory fees, and room and board of a resident  
7 undergraduate student at the 4-year public institution of higher education within the  
8 University System of Maryland, other than the University of Maryland University  
9 College and University of Maryland, Baltimore, with the highest annual expenses for  
10 a full-time resident undergraduate.

11 (f) A scholarship recipient shall maintain a grade point average of at least  
12 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

13 (g) Each recipient of a scholarship under this section may hold the award for  
14 5 years of full-time study or 8 years of part-time study.

15 (h) A scholarship recipient shall file for federal and State financial aid by  
16 March 1 of each year.

17 (i) (1) The Office may not award an initial scholarship to an individual  
18 after June 30, [2016] **2020**.

19 (2) The Office may renew a scholarship after June 30, [2016] **2020**, if  
20 the individual received an initial scholarship before that date.

21 (j) A Senator or Delegate may authorize the Office to award all or a portion  
22 of the funds authorized under Subtitles 4 and 5 of this title to eligible recipients of  
23 scholarships awarded under this section.

24 (k) (1) Funds for the Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts  
25 Scholarship shall be as provided in the annual budget of the Commission by the  
26 Governor.

27 (2) (i) There is a Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts  
28 Scholarship Fund in the Commission.

29 (ii) The Commission:

30 1. May accept any gift or grant from any person or  
31 corporation for the Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship Fund;

**SENATE BILL 292**

1                                   2.     Shall use any gift or grant that it receives for a  
2 scholarship from the Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship  
3 Fund; and

4                                   3.     Shall deposit any gift or grant that it receives for the  
5 Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship Fund with the State  
6 Treasurer in a nonbudgeted account.

7                                   (3)    (i)     At the end of the fiscal year, the Commission shall prepare  
8 an annual report on the Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship  
9 Fund that includes an accounting of all financial receipts and expenditures to and  
10 from the Fund.

11                                   (ii)    The Commission shall submit a copy of the report to the  
12 General Assembly as provided under § 2-1246 of the State Government Article.

13                                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
14 October 1, 2012.