

SENATE BILL 365

F2

(2lr0663)

ENROLLED BILL

— Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs/Ways and Means —

Introduced by **Senators Garagiola, Astle, Benson, Colburn, Currie, DeGrange, Dyson, Ferguson, Forehand, Frosh, Glassman, Jennings, Kasemeyer, King, Klausmeier, Madaleno, Manno, Mathias, Middleton, Peters, Pipkin, Pugh, Ramirez, Raskin, Robey, Rosapepe, Stone, Young, and Zirkin**

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 – ~~Volunteer Firefighters~~ The Charles W. Riley Fire and**
3 **Emergency Medical Services Scholarship**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing a certain fire and emergency medical services tuition
5 reimbursement program and establishing the ~~Volunteer Firefighters~~ Charles W.
6 Riley Fire and Emergency Medical Services Scholarship; establishing certain
7 eligibility requirements for a scholarship; authorizing the use of a scholarship
8 for certain educational expenses; ~~prohibiting~~ authorizing the annual amount of
9 a scholarship ~~from exceeding~~ awarded to be up to a certain percentage of the
10 equivalent tuition and certain fees of a certain institution of higher education;
11 requiring a scholarship recipient to maintain a certain grade point average;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 providing for the duration of the scholarship; requiring scholarship recipients to
 2 file for certain federal and State financial aid by a certain date; authorizing
 3 legislative scholarship funds to be used for certain purposes; providing that
 4 funds for the scholarship are as provided in a certain annual budget by the
 5 Governor; establishing a ~~Volunteer Firefighters~~ Charles W. Riley Fire and
 6 Emergency Medical Services Scholarship Fund in the Higher Education
 7 Commission; directing the Commission to use certain gifts and grants for the
 8 Fund in a certain manner; requiring the Commission to prepare a certain
 9 annual report regarding the Fund; requiring a recipient of a certain scholarship
 10 to work for at least a certain number of years as a certain firefighter or certain
 11 rescue squad member in the State after completion of a certain program;
 12 requiring any funds remaining in the Charles W. Riley Fire and Emergency
 13 Medical Services Tuition Reimbursement Program after a certain date to be
 14 used to fund the Charles W. Riley Fire and Emergency Medical Services
 15 Scholarship for a certain academic year; requiring the Office of Student
 16 Financial Assistance to provide certain public notice of the establishment of the
 17 Charles W. Riley Fire and Emergency Medical Services Scholarship as a
 18 replacement for the Charles W. Riley Fire and Emergency Medical Services
 19 Tuition Reimbursement Program; and generally relating to the establishment of
 20 the ~~Volunteer Firefighters~~ Charles W. Riley Fire and Emergency Medical
 21 Services Scholarship.

22 BY repealing

23 Article – Education

24 Section 18–603

25 Annotated Code of Maryland

26 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

27 BY adding to

28 Article – Education

29 Section ~~18–605~~ 18–603

30 Annotated Code of Maryland

31 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

34 **Article – Education**

35 ~~18–605.~~

36 [18–603.

37 (a) There is a Charles W. Riley Fire and Emergency Medical Services Tuition
 38 Reimbursement Program under this section.

39 (b) As provided in the State budget, any career or volunteer firefighter or
 40 ambulance or rescue squad member who is a resident of Maryland shall receive partial

1 or full and complete reimbursement by the Office for tuition costs not to exceed the
 2 resident tuition rates at the 4-year public institution of higher education within the
 3 University System of Maryland, other than the University of Maryland University
 4 College and University of Maryland, Baltimore, with the highest annual expenses for
 5 a full-time resident undergraduate, for courses credited toward a degree in fire service
 6 technology or emergency medical technology.

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

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

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

15 **18-603.**

16 (A) **THERE IS A ~~VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS~~ CHARLES W. RILEY FIRE**
 17 **AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP.**

18 (B) **AN INDIVIDUAL MAY APPLY TO THE OFFICE FOR A SCHOLARSHIP**
 19 **UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE INDIVIDUAL:**

20 (1) **IS A RESIDENT OF MARYLAND;**

21 (2) (I) **IS ACCEPTED FOR ADMISSION OR ENROLLED IN THE**
 22 **REGULAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM AT AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION; OR**

23 (II) **IS ACCEPTED FOR ADMISSION OR ENROLLED IN A**
 24 **2-YEAR TERMINAL CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN WHICH THE COURSE WORK IS**
 25 **ACCEPTABLE FOR TRANSFER CREDIT FOR AN ACCREDITED BACCALAUREATE**
 26 **PROGRAM IN AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION; AND**

27 (3) **IS ACTIVELY ENGAGED AS A CAREER OR VOLUNTEER**
 28 **FIREFIGHTER OR AMBULANCE OR RESCUE SQUAD MEMBER IN AN ORGANIZED**
 29 **FIRE DEPARTMENT OR AMBULANCE OR RESCUE SQUAD IN THE STATE.**

30 (C) **A SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED UNDER THIS SECTION:**

31 (1) **MAY BE USED FOR THE TUITION AND MANDATORY FEES AT**
 32 **ANY ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION; AND**

1 (2) ~~MAY NOT EXCEED 33.3%~~

2 (1) FOR A CAREER FIREFIGHTER OR AMBULANCE OR
3 RESCUE SQUAD MEMBER, MAY BE UP TO 100% OF THE EQUIVALENT ANNUAL
4 TUITION AND MANDATORY FEES OF A RESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AT
5 THE 4-YEAR PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITHIN THE
6 UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND, OTHER THAN THE UNIVERSITY OF
7 MARYLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND,
8 BALTIMORE, WITH THE HIGHEST ANNUAL EXPENSES FOR A
9 FULL-TIME RESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE FOR COURSES CREDITED TOWARD A
10 DEGREE IN FIRE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL
11 TECHNOLOGY; AND

12 (ii) FOR A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER, MAY BE UP TO 100%
13 OF THE EQUIVALENT ANNUAL TUITION AND MANDATORY FEES OF A RESIDENT
14 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AT THE 4-YEAR PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
15 EDUCATION WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND, OTHER THAN
16 THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY OF
17 MARYLAND, BALTIMORE, WITH THE HIGHEST ANNUAL EXPENSES FOR A
18 FULL-TIME RESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE.

19 (D) A SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT SHALL MAINTAIN A GRADE POINT
20 AVERAGE OF AT LEAST 2.5 ON A 4.0 SCALE.

21 (E) EACH RECIPIENT OF A SCHOLARSHIP UNDER THIS SECTION MAY
22 HOLD THE AWARD FOR 5 YEARS OF FULL-TIME STUDY OR 8 YEARS OF
23 PART-TIME STUDY.

24 (F) A SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT SHALL FILE FOR FEDERAL AND STATE
25 FINANCIAL AID BY MARCH 1 OF EACH YEAR.

26 (G) A SENATOR OR DELEGATE MAY AUTHORIZE THE OFFICE TO AWARD
27 ALL OR A PORTION OF THE FUNDS AUTHORIZED UNDER SUBTITLES 4 AND 5 OF
28 THIS TITLE TO ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS OF SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED UNDER THIS
29 SECTION.

30 (H) (1) ~~FUNDS FOR THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS~~ CHARLES W.
31 RILEY FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP SHALL BE AS
32 PROVIDED IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE COMMISSION BY THE GOVERNOR.

33 (2) (1) ~~THERE IS A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS~~ CHARLES W.
34 RILEY FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP FUND IN THE
35 COMMISSION.

1 (ii) THE COMMISSION:

2 1. MAY ACCEPT ANY GIFT OR GRANT FROM ANY
3 PERSON OR CORPORATION FOR THE ~~VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS~~ CHARLES W.
4 RILEY FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP FUND;

5 2. SHALL USE ANY GIFT OR GRANT THAT IT
6 RECEIVES FOR A SCHOLARSHIP FROM THE ~~VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS~~
7 CHARLES W. RILEY FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP
8 FUND; AND

9 3. SHALL DEPOSIT ANY GIFT OR GRANT THAT IT
10 RECEIVES FOR THE ~~VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS~~ CHARLES W. RILEY FIRE AND
11 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP FUND WITH THE STATE
12 TREASURER IN A NONBUDGETED ACCOUNT.

13 (3) (i) AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR, THE COMMISSION
14 SHALL PREPARE AN ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ~~VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS~~
15 CHARLES W. RILEY FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP
16 FUND THAT INCLUDES AN ACCOUNTING OF ALL FINANCIAL RECEIPTS AND
17 EXPENDITURES TO AND FROM THE FUND.

18 (ii) THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT A COPY OF THE
19 REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS PROVIDED UNDER § 2-1246 OF THE
20 STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

21 (i) A RECIPIENT OF A CHARLES W. RILEY FIRE AND EMERGENCY
22 MEDICAL SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP SHALL WORK FOR AT LEAST 1 YEAR AS A
23 VOLUNTEER OR CAREER FIREFIGHTER OR AMBULANCE OR RESCUE SQUAD
24 MEMBER IN AN ORGANIZED FIRE DEPARTMENT OR AMBULANCE OR RESCUE
25 SQUAD IN THE STATE AFTER COMPLETION OF AN ELIGIBLE PROGRAM IN AN
26 ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

28 (a) Any funds remaining in the Charles W. Riley Fire and Emergency
29 Medical Services Tuition Reimbursement Program after June 30, 2013, shall be used
30 to fund the Charles W. Riley Fire and Emergency Medical Services Scholarship, as
31 enacted by Section 1 of this Act, for the 2013–2014 academic year; and

32 (b) The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall provide the public with
33 notice of the establishment of the Charles W. Riley Fire and Emergency Medical
34 Services Scholarship as a replacement for the Charles W. Riley Fire and Emergency
35 Medical Services Tuition Reimbursement Program, including posting information on

1 the Office of Student Financial Assistance Web site and conducting outreach activities
2 to fire departments and ambulance and rescue squads in the State.

3 SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
4 effect July 1, 2012.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.