

SENATE BILL 41

F2

51r0568
CF 51r0567

By: **Senator Ferguson**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2015

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education – Nancy Grasmick Teacher Award – Eligibility**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain public school teachers in the State who earned
4 certain degrees from certain out-of-state institutions of higher education to be
5 eligible for a Nancy Grasmick Teacher Award under certain circumstances; making
6 stylistic changes; and generally relating to eligibility for the Nancy Grasmick
7 Teacher Award.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Education
10 Section 18–1502(b) and (c)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Education**

16 18–1502.

17 (b) **(1)** The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall assist in the
18 repayment of the amount of any higher education loan owed by an individual who:

19 **[(1)] (i) 1.** Receives a graduate, professional, or undergraduate
20 degree from:

21 **[1.] A. [A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2)**
22 **OF THIS SUBSECTION, A college or university in the State [of Maryland]; or**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 [2.] B. A school of law; or

2 [(ii)] 2. Receives a Resident Teacher Certificate (RTC) from the
3 Department after completing an alternative teaching preparation program approved by the
4 State Superintendent;

5 [(2)] (II) Obtains eligible employment;

6 [(3)] (III) Receives an income that is less than the maximum eligible total
7 income levels established by the Office, including any additional sources of income; and

8 [(4)] (IV) Satisfies any other criteria established by the Office.

9 (2) A PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER IN THE STATE WHO RECEIVES A
10 GRADUATE, PROFESSIONAL, OR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE FROM A COLLEGE OR
11 UNIVERSITY OUT OF THE STATE MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE
12 UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE DEGREE WAS EARNED AT A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY
13 THAT HAS A CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL OR OTHER COMPARABLE AUTHORIZATION
14 FROM THE HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY OR COORDINATING BOARD IN THE
15 STATE IN WHICH THE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY IS LOCATED.

16 (c) Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, the Office shall assist
17 in the repayment of the amount of any higher education loan owed by a public school
18 teacher in the State who:

19 (1) Has taught in [Maryland] THE STATE for at least 2 years:

20 (i) In science, technology, engineering, or math subjects; or

21 (ii) In a school in which at least 75% of the students are enrolled in
22 the free and reduced lunch program in the State; and

23 (2) Has received the highest performance evaluation rating for the most
24 recent year available in the county in which the teacher taught.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
26 1, 2015.