

Chapter 681

(Senate Bill 582)

AN ACT concerning

Education – Robotics Grant Program – Establishment

FOR the purpose of establishing the Robotics Grant Program; providing for the purpose of the Program; establishing eligibility requirements for the Program; requiring the State Department of Education to implement and administer the Program; requiring the Governor to include a certain appropriation to the Program in the State budget; authorizing the Department to adopt certain regulations; and generally relating to the Robotics Grant Program.

BY adding to

Article – Education

Section 7–121

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

7–121.

(A) (1) **THERE IS A ROBOTICS GRANT PROGRAM IN THE STATE.**

(2) **THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND NONPROFIT ROBOTICS CLUBS IN THE STATE TO SUPPORT ~~AND EXPAND~~ EXISTING ROBOTICS PROGRAMS AND TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF ROBOTICS PROGRAMS IN THE STATE.**

(B) (1) **A SCHOOL IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A GRANT UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE SCHOOL**

~~(1) HAS IS PROPOSING A NEW ROBOTICS PROGRAM OR CLUB OR HAS AN EXISTING ROBOTICS PROGRAM OR CLUB; OR,~~

(2) ~~IS ASSOCIATED WITH AN~~ AN EXISTING NONPROFIT ROBOTICS CLUB IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A GRANT UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE NONPROFIT ROBOTICS CLUB IS ASSOCIATED WITH A PUBLIC SCHOOL.

(C) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE STATE BUDGET AN ANNUAL APPROPRIATION OF AT LEAST ~~\$500,000~~ \$250,000 TO THE PROGRAM.

(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT AND ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION.

(E) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 28, 2016.