

HOUSE BILL 1015

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By: Delegates Kaiser, Angel, Atterbeary, Barkley, B. Barnes, Barve, Branch, Brooks, Busch, Chang, Cullison, Ebersole, Fennell, Frick, Frush, Gutierrez, Haynes, Healey, Hettleman, Hill, Hixson, Holmes, Hornberger, Jackson, Jalisi, Jones, Korman, Krimm, Lafferty, Lierman, Lisanti, Luedtke, McIntosh, McMillan, A. Miller, Moon, Morhaim, Pena-Melnyk, Pendergrass, Platt, Reznik, B. Robinson, Sanchez, Smith, Sophocleus, Stein, Valderrama, Valentino-Smith, Waldstreicher, M. Washington, ~~and K. Young~~ K. Young, Metzgar, Patterson, Tarlau, and A. Washington

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2016

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 14, 2016

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Study of Student Loan Refinancing in Maryland**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission and the
4 Maryland Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority, in consultation with
5 the Department of Legislative Services and any other appropriate agencies, to study
6 the expansion or creation of an appropriate bonding authority for the refinancing of
7 student loans in Maryland; requiring the study to examine certain matters and to
8 make findings and recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the
9 Maryland Higher Education Commission and the Maryland Health and Higher
10 Educational Facilities Authority to report ~~its~~ their findings and recommendations to
11 the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the
12 termination of this Act; and generally relating to the study of student loan
13 refinancing in Maryland.

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
15 That:

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.



1 (a) The Maryland Higher Education Commission and the Maryland Health and
2 Higher Educational Facilities Authority, in consultation with the Department of
3 Legislative Services and any other appropriate agencies, shall study the expansion or
4 creation of an appropriate bonding authority for the refinancing of student loans in
5 Maryland.

6 (b) The study shall examine:

7 (1) whether there are any entities in the State that have bonding authority
8 and currently have the capability and the capacity to offer a student loan refinancing
9 program;

10 (2) whether there are any entities in the State that have bonding authority
11 and do not currently have the capability ~~and~~ or the capacity to offer a student loan
12 refinancing program, but might be a viable option to offer the program if certain changes
13 were made to the entity;

14 (3) student loan refinancing programs offered in other states, including
15 eligibility requirements, essential program characteristics, and start-up and operational
16 costs; and

17 (4) the role of counties or jurisdictions in offering student loan refinancing
18 programs.

19 (c) The study shall make findings and recommendations on:

20 (1) the entities in the State that are best suited to offer a student loan
21 refinancing program and whether any statutory changes would be necessary to enable
22 those entities to offer a program;

23 (2) program characteristics that are essential for a successful student loan
24 refinancing program in Maryland;

25 (3) the projected start-up and operational costs for a successful student
26 loan refinancing program in Maryland;

27 (4) best practices and lessons learned from the review of other states'
28 student loan refinancing programs; and

29 (5) the role of counties or jurisdictions in offering student loan refinancing
30 programs.

31 (d) On or before September 30, 2017, the Maryland Higher Education
32 Commission and the Maryland Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority shall
33 report ~~its~~ their findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with §
34 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
2 1, 2016. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of May 31, 2018,
3 with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and
4 of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.