

HOUSE BILL 1604

F3, F2

6lr3326

By: **Delegates Glenn, Anderson, Carter, Conaway, Hayes, McCray, Oaks, and B. Robinson**

Introduced and read first time: February 25, 2016

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore City – Education – History and Culture Curriculum – Larry Gibson**
3 **Teacher Award**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Chief Academic Officer in the Baltimore City Public
5 School System to develop and implement certain curriculum content standards for
6 certain grades relating to the history and culture of a certain minority group;
7 requiring certain curriculum content standards for certain grades to be embedded
8 through certain curriculum, beginning with a certain school year; requiring the
9 Office of Student Financial Assistance in the Maryland Higher Education
10 Commission to assist in the repayment of a certain higher education loan owed by a
11 certain public school teacher who receives an undergraduate degree from Coppin
12 State University or Morgan State University and has taught in a Baltimore City
13 public school for a certain number of years in certain subjects; establishing the Larry
14 Gibson Teacher Award; providing that a certain recipient of a certain award be
15 known as a Larry Gibson Teacher Scholar; and generally relating to education and
16 teachers in Baltimore City.

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
18 Article – Education
19 Section 4–305 and 18–1502
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

22 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
23 Article – Education
24 Section 18–1501 and 18–1503
25 Annotated Code of Maryland
26 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3 **Article – Education**

4 4–305.

5 (a) There is a Chief Academic Officer in the Baltimore City Public School System
6 who shall:

7 (1) Be responsible for the development and implementation of the
8 curriculum taught and the instruction provided in the Baltimore City Public School System;
9 and

10 (2) Report directly to the Chief Executive Officer.

11 **(B) (1) THE CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER SHALL DEVELOP AND**
12 **IMPLEMENT CURRICULUM CONTENT STANDARDS FOR GRADES 4 THROUGH 8**
13 **RELATING TO THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF ANY MINORITY GROUP THAT**
14 **CONSTITUTES TWO–THIRDS OF THE STUDENT BODY OF THE BALTIMORE CITY**
15 **PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.**

16 **(2) BEGINNING WITH THE 2018–2019 SCHOOL YEAR, THE**
17 **CURRICULUM CONTENT STANDARDS IMPLEMENTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS**
18 **SUBSECTION SHALL BE EMBEDDED THROUGHOUT THE CURRICULUM FOR GRADES 4**
19 **THROUGH 8.**

20 **[(b)] (C)** The Chief Executive Officer shall, subject to the approval of the board:

21 (1) Select the Chief Academic Officer; and

22 (2) Establish the salary of the Chief Academic Officer.

23 **[(c)] (D)** The employment contract of the Chief Academic Officer shall provide,
24 at a minimum, that continued employment is contingent on demonstrable improvement in
25 the academic performance of the students in the Baltimore City Public School System.

26 **[(d)] (E)** The Chief Academic Officer is not a public officer under the
27 Constitution or the laws of the State.

28 18–1501.

29 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

1 (b) (1) “Eligible field of employment” means employment in the State by an
2 organization, institution, association, society, or corporation that is exempt from taxation
3 under § 501(c)(3) or (4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

4 (2) “Eligible field of employment” includes employment by the State or any
5 local government in the State, but does not include being employed as a judicial clerk in
6 any court.

7 (c) “Higher education loan” means any loan for undergraduate or graduate study
8 that is obtained for tuition, educational expenses, or living expenses from:

9 (1) A college or university, government, or commercial source; or

10 (2) An organization, institution, association, society, or corporation that is
11 exempt from taxation under § 501(c)(3) or (4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

12 (d) “Program” means the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program.
13 18–1502.

14 (a) There is a program of loan assistance repayment known as the Janet L.
15 Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program in the State.

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

18 (1) (i) Receives a graduate, professional, or undergraduate degree from:

19 1. A college or university in the State of Maryland; or

20 2. A school of law; or

21 (ii) Receives a Resident Teacher Certificate (RTC) from the
22 Department after completing an alternative teaching preparation program approved by the
23 State Superintendent;

24 (2) Obtains eligible employment;

25 (3) Receives an income that is less than the maximum eligible total income
26 levels established by the Office, including any additional sources of income; and

27 (4) Satisfies any other criteria established by the Office.

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

1 (1) Has taught in Maryland for at least 2 years:

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

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

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

7 (d) (1) A grant awarded under subsection (c) of this section shall be known as
8 the Nancy Grasmick Teacher Award.

9 (2) A recipient of a Nancy Grasmick Teacher Award shall be known as a
10 Nancy Grasmick Teacher Scholar.

11 **(E) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION,**
12 **THE OFFICE SHALL ASSIST IN THE REPAYMENT OF THE AMOUNT OF ANY HIGHER**
13 **EDUCATION LOAN OWED BY A PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER IN THE STATE WHO:**

14 **(1) HAS RECEIVED AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE FROM COPPIN**
15 **STATE UNIVERSITY OR MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY;**

16 **(2) HAS TAUGHT IN A BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL FOR AT**
17 **LEAST 5 YEARS:**

18 **(I) IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, OR MATH**
19 **SUBJECTS; AND**

20 **(II) IN A SCHOOL IN WHICH AT LEAST 75% OF THE STUDENTS**
21 **ARE ENROLLED IN THE FREE AND REDUCED PRICE LUNCH PROGRAM IN THE STATE;**
22 **AND**

23 **(3) HAS RECEIVED THE HIGHEST PERFORMANCE EVALUATION**
24 **RATING FOR THE MOST RECENT YEAR AVAILABLE IN WHICH THE TEACHER TAUGHT**
25 **IN A BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL.**

26 **(F) (1) A GRANT AWARDED UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION**
27 **SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE LARRY GIBSON TEACHER AWARD.**

28 **(2) A RECIPIENT OF A LARRY GIBSON TEACHER AWARD SHALL BE**
29 **KNOWN AS A LARRY GIBSON TEACHER SCHOLAR.**

1 **[(e)] (G)** An applicant for assistance in the repayment of a commercial loan shall
2 demonstrate to the Office that the commercial loan was used for tuition, educational
3 expenses, or living expenses for graduate or undergraduate study.

4 **[(f)] (H)** Assistance in the repayment of a loan from an entity set forth in §
5 18–1501(c)(2) of this subtitle shall require the approval of the Office.

6 **[(g)] (I)** Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, the Office shall
7 assist in the repayment of the amount of any higher education loan owed by a licensed
8 clinical alcohol and drug counselor, a licensed clinical marriage and family therapy
9 counselor, or a licensed clinical professional counselor whose practice is located in a
10 high–need geographic area of the State as determined by the Department of Health and
11 Mental Hygiene.

12 18–1503.

13 (a) The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall adopt regulations to
14 establish:

15 (1) The maximum starting income for eligibility in the Janet L. Hoffman
16 Loan Assistance Repayment Program;

17 (2) The maximum total income for eligibility in the Janet L. Hoffman Loan
18 Assistance Repayment Program, including any additional sources of income;

19 (3) That priority for participation in the Program shall be given to an
20 individual who:

21 (i) Graduated from an institution of higher education in the last 3
22 years;

23 (ii) Is a resident of the State;

24 (iii) Is employed on a full–time basis; and

25 (iv) 1. Provides, as the principal part of the individual’s
26 employment, legal services to low–income residents in the State who cannot afford legal
27 services, nursing services in nursing shortage areas in the State as defined in § 18–802 of
28 this title, or other services in an eligible field of employment in which there is a shortage of
29 qualified practitioners to low–income or underserved residents or areas of the State; or

30 2. For teacher applicants only, qualifies for a Nancy
31 Grasmick Teacher Award;

32 (4) A limit on the total amount of assistance provided by the Office of
33 Student Financial Assistance in repaying the loan of an eligible individual, based on the
34 individual’s total income and outstanding higher education loan balance;

1 (5) A procedure and schedule for the monthly or annual payment of the
2 amount of loan assistance provided by the Office of Student Financial Assistance to the
3 eligible individual, as appropriate to assist an eligible individual in meeting loan
4 forgiveness program requirements;

5 (6) A requirement that an eligible individual apply to federal loan
6 forgiveness programs for which the individual may qualify;

7 (7) A requirement that an eligible individual notify the Office of Student
8 Financial Assistance if the individual receives other loan repayment assistance; and

9 (8) An annual review of the eligibility of each individual participating in
10 the Program.

11 (b) The Office of Student Financial Assistance may not approve more than 50%
12 of the total number of awards for teacher applicants to Nancy Grasmick Teacher Scholars.

13 (c) The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall adopt any other regulations
14 necessary to implement this subtitle.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
16 1, 2016.