

SENATE BILL 1021

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8lr3693

By: **Senator Conway**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2018

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Community Colleges – Baccalaureate Degrees – Prohibition**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting certain community colleges from awarding certain
4 baccalaureate or doctoral degrees; requiring certain degrees to be awarded by certain
5 institutions of higher education under certain circumstances; and generally relating
6 to the awarding of baccalaureate degrees.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Education

9 Section 16–108

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Education**

15 16–108.

16 (a) (1) **[A] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION**, A board of
17 trustees may submit to the Commission a request for proposals for the offering of a
18 baccalaureate degree program not currently offered in the region.

19 (2) The Commission shall distribute the request for proposals to public
20 senior higher education institutions and private nonprofit institutions of higher education.

21 (b) Before submitting a request for proposals under subsection (a) of this section,
22 the board of trustees shall:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (1) Seek input from students, workforce development councils, and other
2 civic, educational, community, and business groups when assessing the educational needs
3 of the region;

4 (2) Determine the regional or statewide need for graduates of each program
5 for which a request for proposals is submitted;

6 (3) Identify the enrollment patterns, special characteristics of students,
7 and other unique circumstances that would require a program to be offered in a particular
8 manner; and

9 (4) Determine that the degree program is necessary to meet the academic
10 and economic development needs of the region or State.

11 (c) (1) The board of trustees may submit the request for proposals to
12 out-of-state senior higher education institutions and for-profit institutions of higher
13 education if none of the senior higher education institutions in the State submit an
14 acceptable response to the request for proposals submitted under subsection (a) of this
15 section.

16 (2) Notwithstanding § 11-206(b)(2)(ii) of this article, before offering a
17 degree program that is the subject of the request for proposals, an out-of-state senior
18 higher education institution or for-profit institution of higher education shall seek **AND**
19 **OBTAIN** the approval of the Commission under Title 11, Subtitle 2 of this article.

20 **(D) (1) A COMMUNITY COLLEGE MAY NOT AWARD A BACCALAUREATE**
21 **DEGREE.**

22 **(2) IF A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS IS ACCEPTED AND GRANTED BY**
23 **THE COMMISSION UNDER THIS SECTION, THE BACCALAUREATE DEGREE SHALL BE**
24 **AWARDED BY THE PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION, PRIVATE**
25 **NONPROFIT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, OR OUT-OF-STATE SENIOR**
26 **HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION OR FOR-PROFIT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER**
27 **EDUCATION.**

28 **[(d)] (E)** The Commission shall adopt regulations to implement the
29 requirements of this section.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
31 1, 2018.