

SENATE BILL 267

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CF HB 348

By: **The President (By Request – Administration) and Senators Bailey, Beidle, Carozza, Cassilly, Eckardt, Edwards, Elfreth, Ferguson, Gallion, Guzzone, Hershey, Jennings, Kagan, Ready, Salling, Serafini, and West**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2020

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **AP Opportunities Act of 2020**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Board of Education to provide Advanced Placement
4 examination fee assistance for students with financial need under certain
5 circumstances; authorizing the State Board to adopt certain regulations; defining a
6 certain term; and generally relating to fees for Advanced Placement examinations.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Education

9 Section 5–222

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 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 **5–222.**

16 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “STUDENT WITH FINANCIAL NEED” MEANS A**
17 **STUDENT:**

18 **(1) WHOSE ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME IS AT OR BELOW 185% OF**
19 **THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL AS DETERMINED ANNUALLY BY THE U.S.**
20 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES;**

21 **(2) WHO IS IN FOSTER CARE OR HEAD START;**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(3) WHO IS HOMELESS;**

2 **(4) WHO IS LIVING IN A HOUSEHOLD THAT RECEIVES BENEFITS**
3 **UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP),**
4 **TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) PROGRAM, OR THE FOOD**
5 **DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS (FDPIR); OR**

6 **(5) WHO IS ABLE TO SHOW THAT PAYMENT OF THE REQUIRED FEE**
7 **WOULD BE A FINANCIAL HARDSHIP.**

8 **(B) (1) BEGINNING IN THE 2020–2021 SCHOOL YEAR, THE STATE BOARD**
9 **SHALL PROVIDE ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATION FEE ASSISTANCE FOR**
10 **STUDENTS WITH FINANCIAL NEED.**

11 **(2) FUNDS SHALL BE AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.**

12 **(3) TO RECEIVE ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATION FEE**
13 **ASSISTANCE, A STUDENT WITH FINANCIAL NEED SHALL BE ENROLLED IN AN**
14 **APPROVED COURSE AND PLAN TO TAKE THE APPROPRIATE EXAMINATION.**

15 **(C) THE STATE BOARD MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS**
16 **SECTION.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
18 1, 2020.