By: Delegate Amprey
Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2021
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Rehabilitation and Education for All Prisons (REAP) Act

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to set certain goals relating to rehabilitation programs, establish a tracking system for the number of inmates in rehabilitation programs, and establish a tracking system of inmates’ progress in rehabilitation programs; requiring the State Department of Education and the Department of Human Services to assist the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services in establishing certain tracking systems; requiring the Governor to annually appropriate funds to the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services for certain uses relating to rehabilitation programs; requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Service to assist inmates into accessing certain federal education grants; requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to consult with institutions of higher education to assist inmates to access certain federal education grants; requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to adopt certain regulations; and generally relating to rehabilitation and education for inmates.

BY adding to
Article – Correctional Services
Section 2–601 through 2–603 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 6. Rehabilitation and Education for All Prisons Act”
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2017 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

Article – Correctional Services

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
2–601.

(A) The Department shall:

(1) set goals for the number of inmates in rehabilitation programs;

(2) establish a tracking system for the number of inmates in rehabilitation programs; and

(3) establish a tracking system for the progress of inmates in rehabilitation programs, including, the number of college credits that each inmate earns in an approved college program.

(B) The State Department of Education and the Department of Human Services shall assist the Department in creating the tracking systems under subsection (A) of this section.

(C) The Governor shall provide funding annually in the budget bill for the Department to use for rehabilitation programs, marketing rehabilitation programs to inmates, and the tracking systems for rehabilitation programs.

2–602.

(A) The Department shall assist inmates in accessing federal Pell Grants for higher education.

(B) In order to assist inmates in accessing federal Pell Grants, the Department shall consult with institutions of higher education, including:

(1) The University of Baltimore;

(2) Morgan State University;

(3) Bowie State University; and

(4) University of Maryland Global Campus.

2–603.
THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS
SUBTITLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
October 1, 2021.