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 and establish certain tracking systems relating to 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 Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to assist inmates in accessing certain federal education grants; and generally relating to rehabilitation and education for inmates.

BY adding to

Article – Correctional Services

Section 2–701 through 2–703 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 7. Rehabilitation and Education for All Prisons Act”

Annotated Code of Maryland
(2017 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Correctional Services

SUBTITLE 7. REHABILITATION AND EDUCATION FOR ALL PRISONS ACT.

2–701.

(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.

2–702.

(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) The University of Maryland Global Campus.

2–703.

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, 2022.