By: Delegates Henson, Ruth, Terrasa, Valderrama, and Valentino-Smith
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2022
Assigned to: Appropriations
Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 11, 2022

CHAPTER _____

AN ACT concerning

University System of Maryland Public Institutions of Higher Education –
Student Withdrawal Policy – Reimbursement of Tuition and Fees
(The Cameron Carden Act of 2022)

FOR the purpose of requiring constituent institutions and centers of the University System
of Maryland to each public institution of higher education to adopt a certain policy
to authorize students to withdraw under certain circumstances and that includes a
provision to reimburse the student for tuition and fees paid for a certain semester
under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the University System of
Maryland withdrawal policies at public institutions of higher education.

BY adding to
Article – Education
Section 12–124.15–134
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 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 – Education

12–124.15–134.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES” INCLUDES:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates amendments to bill.
Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by
amendment.
(1) ILLNESS;

(2) INJURY;

(3) HOSPITALIZATION; AND

(4) MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS.

(B) CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS AND CENTERS SHALL AUTHORIZE STUDENTS TO WITHDRAW FOR EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

(C) IF A STUDENT WITHDRAWS FOR EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES, THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTION OR CENTER SHALL REIMBURSE THE STUDENT ANY TUITION AND FEES PAID BY THE STUDENT FOR THE SEMESTER DURING WHICH THE STUDENT WITHDRAWS.

(B) (1) EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL ADOPT A POLICY THAT AUTHORIZES A STUDENT TO WITHDRAW FOR EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

(2) THE POLICY UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE A PROVISION TO REIMBURSE TUITION AND FEES FOR THE SEMESTER IN WHICH A STUDENT WITHDRAWS IF THE EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES INHIBIT THE STUDENT’S ABILITY TO ACQUIRE AN EDUCATION AT THE PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AS DEFINED IN THE POLICY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2022.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.