

HOUSE BILL 1030

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2lr2162
CF SB 501

By: **Delegate Smith**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2022

Assigned to: Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 7, 2022

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Higher Education Commission – Procedures and Operations –**
3 **Alterations**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to follow certain
5 procedures for each open meeting of the Commission; requiring the Commission to
6 design and implement a certain scholarship application; requiring the Office of
7 Student Financial Assistance within the Commission, on or before a certain date
8 each year, to notify each student of the Office’s decision regarding the student’s
9 application for a Delegate Howard P. Rawlings Educational Excellence Award;
10 authorizing certain tax information to be disclosed to the Commission; requiring the
11 Commission to update the award deadlines in the Maryland Community College
12 Scholarships Program regulations; stating the intent of the General Assembly for
13 the reorganization of the Commission to establish the Office as a separate
14 independent agency in a certain fiscal year; and generally relating to alterations to
15 procedures and operations of the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

16 BY adding to
17 Article – Education
18 Section 11–105(w) and (x)
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
22 Article – Education
23 Section 18–301(a)

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 Annotated Code of Maryland
2 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

3 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
4 Article – Education
5 Section 18–307
6 Annotated Code of Maryland
7 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Tax – General
10 Section 13–203(c)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Education**

16 11–105.

17 **(W) (1) EACH OPEN MEETING OF THE COMMISSION SHALL BE MADE**
18 **AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC THROUGH LIVE VIDEO STREAMING.**

19 **(2) THE COMMISSION SHALL MAKE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ON THE**
20 **INTERNET A COMPLETE, UNEDITED ARCHIVED VIDEO RECORDING OF EACH OPEN**
21 **MEETING FOR A MINIMUM OF 5 YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THE MEETING.**

22 **(X) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2025, THE COMMISSION SHALL DESIGN AND**
23 **IMPLEMENT A SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION THAT, ON COMPLETION, WILL RESULT IN**
24 **THE APPLICANT APPLYING FOR ALL OF THE CENTRALIZED SCHOLARSHIP**
25 **PROGRAMS AVAILABLE IN THE COMMISSION.**

26 18–301.

27 (a) There is a Delegate Howard P. Rawlings Program of Educational Excellence
28 Awards in this State that are awarded under this subtitle.

29 18–307.

30 (a) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the Office shall compile
31 and certify lists for the entire State that rank applicants by financial need.

32 (b) All funds for annual initial grants shall be awarded from the statewide list on
33 the basis of greatest financial need.

1 (c) (1) ON OR BEFORE APRIL 15 EACH YEAR, THE OFFICE SHALL SEND A
2 NOTIFICATION TO EACH INDIVIDUAL WHO APPLIED FOR A DELEGATE HOWARD P.
3 RAWLINGS EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD INDICATING:

4 (I) WHETHER OR NOT THE STUDENT IS A RECIPIENT OF AN
5 AWARD; AND

6 (II) IF APPLICABLE, THE AMOUNT AWARDED TO THE STUDENT.

7 (2) On or before May 1 of each year, the Office shall send each Senator and
8 each Delegate a list of individuals in each legislative district to whom Delegate Howard P.
9 Rawlings Educational Excellence Awards are awarded.

10 (d) (1) (i) If State funds are available for this purpose, institutions of
11 higher education in the State may provide Delegate Howard P. Rawlings Educational
12 Excellence Awards to students who otherwise meet the requirements for receiving a
13 Delegate Howard P. Rawlings Educational Excellence Award but who apply after the
14 March 1 deadline or have other extenuating circumstances.

15 (ii) Each year the Commission shall transfer at least \$2 million of
16 the funds available under § 18–107(b) of this title for the purposes of this subsection.

17 (2) The Commission shall:

18 (i) Establish guidelines for the awarding of Delegate Howard P.
19 Rawlings Educational Excellence Awards by the institutions of higher education to the
20 students; and

21 (ii) Adopt regulations necessary for the implementation of this
22 subsection.

23 (3) (i) The Commission shall allocate available funds to institutions of
24 higher education based on the proportion of State residents enrolled at each institution who
25 receive federal Pell Grants.

26 (ii) An institution of higher education that receives funds under this
27 paragraph shall provide the Commission with an annual audit describing the disposition
28 of the funds.

29 **Article – Tax – General**

30 13–203.

31 (c) Tax information may be disclosed to:

1 (1) an employee or officer of the State who, by reason of that employment
2 or office, has the right to the tax information;

3 (2) another tax collector;

4 (3) the Maryland Tax Court;

5 (4) a legal representative of the State, to review the tax information about
6 a taxpayer:

7 (i) who applies for review under this title;

8 (ii) who appeals from a determination under this title; or

9 (iii) against whom an action to recover tax or a penalty is pending or
10 will be initiated under this title;

11 (5) any license issuing authority of the State required by State law to verify
12 through the Comptroller that an applicant has paid all undisputed taxes and
13 unemployment insurance contributions payable to the Comptroller or the Secretary of
14 Labor or that the applicant has provided for payment in a manner satisfactory to the unit
15 responsible for collection;

16 (6) a local official as defined in § 13–925 of this title to the extent necessary
17 to administer Subtitle 9, Part V of this title;

18 (7) a federal official as defined in § 13–930 of this title to the extent
19 necessary to administer Subtitle 9, Part VI of this title;

20 (8) the Maryland Department of Health in accordance with the federal
21 Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009;

22 (9) the State Board of Individual Tax Preparers;

23 (10) the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission; [and]

24 (11) the Emergency Number Systems Board; AND

25 **(12) THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION.**

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before August 1, 2022,
27 the Maryland Higher Education Commission shall update the Maryland Community
28 College Promise Scholarships Program regulations related to award deadlines to award
29 scholarships as soon as practicable based on the changes to the Delegate Howard P.
30 Rawlings Educational Excellence Award as enacted in Section 1 of this Act.

1 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General
2 Assembly that the Maryland Higher Education Commission be reorganized to establish the
3 Office of Student Financial Assistance as a separate independent agency in fiscal year 2024.

4 SECTION ~~2~~ 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 July 1, 2022.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.