SENATE BILL 799

AN ACT concerning Community College Tuition and Residency Waivers – Funding

FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor, beginning in a certain fiscal year for certain fiscal years, to include in the annual State budget for the Maryland Higher Education Commission an appropriation of a certain amount to fund State–mandated community college tuition and residency waivers; and generally relating to community college funding for State–mandated tuition and residency waivers.

BY adding to Article – Education Section 16–322

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

16–322.

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.
(A) In this section, “Qualifying Student” means a community college student who receives a tuition or residency waiver as one of the following:

(1) A foster care recipient or an unaccompanied homeless youth under § 15–106.1 of this article;

(2) A United States armed forces active duty member, the spouse or child of an armed forces active duty member, a United States armed forces veteran who has been honorably discharged, or a member of the National Guard under § 15–106.4 of this article;

(3) The son or daughter of a State or local public safety employee under § 15–106.7 of this article;

(4) A senior citizen under § 16–106(b) of this title;

(5) An individual with a disability under § 16–106(c) of this title;

(6) A student enrolled in an education program leading to licensure in nursing under § 16–310(a)(4) of this subtitle;

(7) A public school teacher under § 16–310(a)(6) of this subtitle; or

(8) A student enrolled in an instructional program that the Commission designates as a health manpower shortage program under § 16–310(d) of this subtitle.

(B) For fiscal year 2024 and each fiscal year thereafter each of fiscal years 2024 through 2026, the Governor shall include in the annual budget bill for the Commission an appropriation of $10,000,000 to fund State–mandated tuition and residency waivers for community colleges.

(C) The Commission shall distribute the appropriation required under subsection (B) of this section to each board of trustees based on the number of enrolled qualifying students at each community college in proportion to the total number of enrolled qualifying students, as determined by the Commission.

(D) The Commission shall adopt any regulations or guidelines necessary to implement this section.
(E) On or before December 1, 2023, and each December 1 through December 1, 2026, the Commission shall report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, on the number of students receiving a tuition or residency waiver for each category listed under subsection (A) of this section for each community college and the amount of funds provided to each community college under this section.

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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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.