

HOUSE BILL 539

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HB 295/23 – APP

4lr2281
CF SB 567

By: **Delegates Henson, McCaskill, and Tomlinson**

Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2024

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Institutions of Higher Education – Student Withdrawal Policy –**
3 **Reimbursement of Tuition and Fees**
4 **(Cameron Carden Act of 2024)**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring each public institution of higher education to adopt a policy
6 to authorize a student to withdraw under extenuating circumstances and reimburse
7 the student for tuition and fees paid for a certain semester under certain
8 circumstances; and generally relating to withdrawal policies at public institutions of
9 higher education.

10 BY adding to
11 Article – Education
12 Section 15–138
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Education**

18 **15–138.**

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

20 **(1) ILLNESS;**

21 **(2) INJURY;**

22 **(3) HOSPITALIZATION; AND**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(4) MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS.**

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

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

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
11 1, 2024.