SENATE BILL 567

F24lr2282HB 295/23 – APP CF HB 539 By: Senator Muse Senators Muse, Augustine, Brooks, Feldman, Kagan, and Lewis Young Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2024 Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee Report: Favorable with amendments Senate action: Adopted Read second time: February 26, 2024 CHAPTER AN ACT concerning Public Institutions of Higher Education - Student Withdrawal Policy -Reimbursement of Tuition and Fees (Cameron Carden Act of 2024) FOR the purpose of requiring each public institution of higher education to adopt a policy to authorize a student to withdraw under extenuating circumstances and reimburse refund the student for tuition and fees paid by the student for a certain semester under certain circumstances; and generally relating to withdrawal policies at public institutions of higher education. BY adding to Article - Education Section 15–138 Annotated Code of Maryland (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement) SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND. That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: **Article - Education 15–138.** IN THIS SECTION, "EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES" INCLUDES: (A)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

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Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

1	(1) ILLNESS;
2	(2) Injury;
3	(3) HOSPITALIZATION; AND
4	(4) MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS.
5 6 7	(B) (1) EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL ADOPT A POLICY THAT AUTHORIZES A STUDENT TO WITHDRAW FOR EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES.
8 9 10 11 12 13	(2) THE POLICY UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE A PROVISION TO REIMBURSE REFUND A STUDENT FOR TUITION AND FEES PAID BY THE STUDENT FOR THE SEMESTER IN WHICH THE 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 POLICY.
14 15	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2024.
	Approved:
	Governor.
	President of the Senate.
	Speaker of the House of Delegates.