

SENATE BILL 620

E5

4lr3127
CF HB 92

By: **Senator Carter**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2024

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment and Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Resources and Education for All Prisons (REAP) Act**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
4 to assist incarcerated individuals in accessing certain federal education grants;
5 requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to set certain goals relating to
6 incarcerated individuals in certain education programs, establish certain tracking
7 systems relating to incarcerated individuals in certain education programs, and
8 forward certain data to the Maryland Higher Education Commission; authorizing
9 the Maryland Higher Education Commission to assist the Maryland Department of
10 Labor in establishing certain tracking systems; and generally relating to resources
11 and education for incarcerated individuals.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Correctional Services

14 Section 2–701 and 2–702 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 7. Incarcerated
15 Individual Access to Federal Pell Grants”

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

18 BY adding to

19 Article – Labor and Employment

20 Section 11–903.1

21 Annotated Code of Maryland

22 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

23 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

24 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

25 **Article – Correctional Services**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **SUBTITLE 7. INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL ACCESS TO FEDERAL PELL GRANTS.**

2 **2-701.**

3 **(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ASSIST INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS IN**
4 **ACCESSING FEDERAL PELL GRANTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.**

5 **(B) IN ORDER TO ASSIST INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS IN ACCESSING**
6 **FEDERAL PELL GRANTS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSULT WITH INSTITUTIONS**
7 **OF HIGHER EDUCATION, INCLUDING:**

8 **(1) THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE;**

9 **(2) MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY;**

10 **(3) BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY;**

11 **(4) THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS;**

12 **(5) ANNE ARUNDEL COMMUNITY COLLEGE;**

13 **(6) HAGERSTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE;**

14 **(7) WOR-WIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE; AND**

15 **(8) GOUCHER COLLEGE.**

16 **2-702.**

17 **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS**
18 **SUBTITLE.**

19 **Article – Labor and Employment**

20 **11-903.1.**

21 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL” HAS THE MEANING**
22 **STATED IN § 1-101 OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ARTICLE.**

23 **(B) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY WITH RESPECT TO EDUCATION PROGRAMS**
24 **IN A CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION IN THE DIVISION OF CORRECTION IN THE**
25 **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES.**

26 **(C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

1 **(1) SET GOALS FOR THE NUMBER OF INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS IN**
2 **EDUCATION PROGRAMS;**

3 **(2) ESTABLISH A TRACKING SYSTEM FOR THE NUMBER OF**
4 **INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS;**

5 **(3) ESTABLISH A TRACKING SYSTEM FOR THE PROGRESS OF**
6 **INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING THE NUMBER**
7 **OF COLLEGE CREDITS THAT EACH INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL EARNS IN AN**
8 **APPROVED COLLEGE PROGRAM; AND**

9 **(4) FORWARD, AT AN AGREED-ON INTERVAL, THE TRACKING DATA**
10 **FOR THE NUMBER OF COLLEGE CREDITS THAT EACH INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL**
11 **EARNS IN AN APPROVED COLLEGE PROGRAM TO THE MARYLAND HIGHER**
12 **EDUCATION COMMISSION.**

13 **(D) THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION MAY ASSIST THE**
14 **DEPARTMENT IN CREATING THE TRACKING SYSTEMS UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF**
15 **THIS SECTION.**

16 **(E) FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE**
17 **ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION IN AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT FOR THE**
18 **DEPARTMENT TO USE FOR MARKETING FOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS TO**
19 **INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS AND FOR THE TRACKING SYSTEMS FOR EDUCATION**
20 **PROGRAMS.**

21 **(F) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS**
22 **SECTION.**

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
24 1, 2024.