

## Chapter 633

**(Senate Bill 597)**

AN ACT concerning

**Higher Education – Maryland Artificial Intelligence Partnership**

FOR the purpose of ~~altering the Cyber Warrior Diversity Program to include training students in artificial intelligence;~~ establishing the Maryland Artificial Intelligence Partnership in the University System of Maryland to provide a single nexus for certain stakeholders in artificial intelligence initiatives to advance artificial intelligence in the State by carrying out certain duties; establishing the Artificial Intelligence Public Service Fellowship in the University System of Maryland; establishing, subject to a certain condition, the Artificial Intelligence Incubation Lab in the University System of Maryland to assist State agencies to accelerate the responsible use of artificial intelligence by carrying out certain duties; requiring the Department of Information Technology to provide certain guidance ~~and support~~ to the Lab; requiring the Center for Equitable Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Systems at Morgan State University to support State agencies on certain uses of artificial intelligence by carrying out certain research; ~~renaming the Cybersecurity Public Service Scholarship Program to be the Emerging Technology Public Service Scholarship Program;~~ ~~adding artificial intelligence to the scope of eligibility for the Scholarship Program;~~ and generally relating to developing the use of artificial intelligence in the State.

~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~  
~~Article – Education~~  
~~Section 11-1402, 18-3501(c), 18-3502, 18-3503(b)(2), (f)(2), and (g), and~~  
~~18-3504(a)(1) and (b)(2)~~  
~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~  
~~(2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)~~

BY adding to  
 Article – Education  
 Section 12-124, ~~12-125~~, through 12-126 and 14-111  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
 Article – Education  
 Section 14-101(c), ~~18-3501(a), and 18-3503(b)(1)~~  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
 Article – State Finance and Procurement

Section 3.5–806(a) and (b)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to  
Article – State Finance and Procurement  
Section 3.5–806(f)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – State Finance and Procurement  
Section 3.5–806(f)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

#### Preamble

WHEREAS, Artificial intelligence is expected to transform every sector of the economy, create new industries, and significantly expand economic output, thus making artificial intelligence skill development and workforce readiness essential for Maryland’s future competitiveness; and

WHEREAS, Broad deployment of artificial intelligence tools will generate demand for new technical and analytical skills, thus creating opportunities for high–paying jobs and career pathways that require education and retraining across industries; and

WHEREAS, The federal AI Action Plan prioritizes expanded artificial intelligence literacy and training to help workers successfully transition into artificial intelligence–driven roles; and

WHEREAS, Coordinated efforts to build robust artificial intelligence ecosystems, including strategic public–private partnerships and access to training resources, are essential to foster innovation and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, The federal AI Action Plan calls for expanding access to critical computing resources, removing barriers to innovation, and strengthening U.S. leadership in artificial intelligence research and development; and

WHEREAS, Aligning State strategies with national goals, such as enhancing workforce development in emerging technology fields, accelerating artificial intelligence adoption in public and private sectors, and expanding opportunities for artificial intelligence education and training, will support Maryland’s economic development and position the State as a leader in the future economy; now, therefore,

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

**Article – Education**

~~11-1402.~~

~~(a) There is a Cyber Warrior Diversity Program at:~~

~~(1) Baltimore City Community College;~~

~~(2) Bowie State University;~~

~~(3) Coppin State University;~~

~~(4) Morgan State University;~~

~~(5) The University of Maryland Eastern Shore; and~~

~~(6) The University of Maryland Baltimore County Training Centers that are located in the State.~~

~~(b) The purpose of each Program is to train students in computer networking [and], cybersecurity, AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.~~

~~(c) The governing entity at each institution is responsible for administering the Program at that institution.~~

~~(d) On or before July 1 each year, beginning in 2024, the Commission, in consultation with the Cybersecurity Association of Maryland, Inc., shall, if applicable, expand the Program to accommodate any changes in certification trends identified under § 10-496 of the Economic Development Article.~~

12-124.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “HUB” MEANS A MARYLAND TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION HUB.

(3) “PARTNERSHIP” MEANS THE MARYLAND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE PARTNERSHIP.

(4) “PLAN” MEANS THE MARYLAND STATE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STRATEGIC PLAN.

**(B) (1) THERE IS A MARYLAND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE PARTNERSHIP IN THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND.**

**(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE PARTNERSHIP IS TO PROVIDE A SINGLE NEXUS FOR STAKEHOLDERS IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INITIATIVES TO ADVANCE THE INNOVATION, ECONOMIC GROWTH, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, AND PUBLIC GOOD ACROSS THE STATE.**

**(3) THE PARTNERSHIP SHALL:**

**(I) CONNECT, ACCELERATE, AND SCALE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INITIATIVES;**

**~~(II) ENSURE ALIGNMENT OF THE STATE'S ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE EFFORTS TO PREVENT FRAGMENTATION;~~**

**~~(III)~~ LEVERAGE RESOURCES TO INCREASE THE STATE'S ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE-TRAINED WORKFORCE AND TO INTEGRATE THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN STATE GOVERNMENT;**

**~~(IV)~~ (III) IDENTIFY AND PURSUE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS ALL RESOURCES, INCLUDING FEDERAL, STATE, INDUSTRY, AND PHILANTHROPIC ENTITIES; AND**

**~~(V)~~ (IV) ESTABLISH MARYLAND TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION HUBS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION.**

**(4) IN CARRYING OUT THE POWERS AND DUTIES GRANTED UNDER THIS SECTION, THE PARTNERSHIP SHALL ~~WORK IN CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION~~ CONSULT WITH:**

**(I) STATE AGENCIES;**

**(II) INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE;**

**(III) THE MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER; AND**

**(IV) THE LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS.**

**(5) THERE IS A DIRECTOR IN THE PARTNERSHIP.**

(C) (1) (I) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2026, THE PARTNERSHIP SHALL DEVELOP A STRATEGIC PLAN.

(II) THE PLAN SHALL INCLUDE ~~METRICS~~:

1. METRICS FOR THE GOALS OF INCREASING THE CORE AREAS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE LITERACY, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, AND RESEARCH AND INNOVATION;

2. A BUSINESS PLAN AND TIMELINE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUBS, INCLUDING NECESSARY FUNDING AND PARTNERSHIPS, AND HOW TO PROVIDE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SKILLS TRAINING TO INDIVIDUALS AT LITTLE OR NO COST;

3. A BUSINESS PLAN AND TIMELINE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INCUBATION LAB UNDER § 12-126 OF THIS SUBTITLE, TO BE ESTABLISHED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE GOVERNOR'S ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SUBCABINET ESTABLISHED UNDER § 3.5-806 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE;

4. AN ANALYSIS OF SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPAND ACCESS AND WORKFORCE EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE; AND

5. A BUSINESS PLAN AND MODEL FOR THE PARTNERSHIP TO ENSURE SUSTAINED IMPACT.

(2) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2027, AND EACH DECEMBER 1 THEREAFTER, THE PARTNERSHIP SHALL SUBMIT A PROGRESS REPORT ON ACHIEVING THE PLAN.

(3) THE PARTNERSHIP SHALL SUBMIT THE REPORTS REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION TO:

(I) THE GOVERNOR; AND

(II) IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

(D) (1) (I) ~~THE PARTNERSHIP SHALL, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR,~~ ESTABLISH MARYLAND TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION HUBS IN STRATEGIC LOCATIONS.

(II) TO THE EXTENT CONSISTENT AND PRACTICABLE WITH THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR’S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND RESOURCES, THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR MAY COLLABORATE WITH THE PARTNERSHIP ON ESTABLISHING THE HUBS.

~~(H)~~ (III) THE HUBS SHALL PRIORITIZE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE BUT MAY BROADEN TO ADDITIONAL SECTORS AS APPROPRIATE.

(2) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 15, ~~2026~~ 2027, THERE SHALL BE ONE HUB IN EACH OF THREE REGIONS OF THE STATE ESTABLISHED ON A PILOT BASIS.

(3) EACH HUB SHALL:

(I) ACT AS A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT TO CONNECT SMALL BUSINESSES WITH CRITICAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE RESOURCES;

(II) PARTNER WITH ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING A COMMUNITY COLLEGE, LOCAL EMPLOYERS, SMALL BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS, AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZERS; AND

(III) FACILITATE REMOTE, CLOUD-BASED ACCESS TO CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING LEVERAGING THE SIGNIFICANT COMPUTING POWER OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES; ~~AND~~

~~(IV) PROVIDE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SKILLS TRAINING TO INDIVIDUALS AT NO CHARGE, INCLUDING THROUGH COURSES AND CREDIT-BEARING CREDENTIALS.~~

12-125.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “FELLOWSHIP” MEANS THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIP.

(B) THERE IS AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIP IN THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND THAT IS IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE MARYLAND STATE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STRATEGIC PLAN UNDER § 12-124 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE FELLOWSHIP IS TO MATCH STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITH STATE AGENCIES TO ADDRESS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE PROJECTS.

(D) THE FELLOWSHIP MAY INCLUDE A MECHANISM BY WHICH A STATE AGENCY, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT, MAY REPURPOSE FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE FELLOWSHIP.

(E) THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND SHALL CONSULT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT AND THE GOVERNOR’S ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SUBCABINET ESTABLISHED UNDER § 3.5-806 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

12-126.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “LAB” MEANS THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INCUBATION LAB.

(B) (1) ~~THERE~~ SUBJECT TO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND AND THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT, THERE IS AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INCUBATION LAB IN THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND.

(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE LAB IS TO ASSIST STATE AGENCIES TO ACCELERATE THE RESPONSIBLE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE BY HELPING STATE AGENCIES TO DISCOVER, DEVELOP, AND APPLY PROTOTYPES AND MANAGE RISK OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SOLUTIONS.

~~(3) IN COORDINATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, THE LAB SHALL:~~

~~(i) SUPPORT STATE AGENCIES TO:~~

~~1. IDENTIFY AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SOLUTIONS AND PRIORITIZE CHALLENGES FOR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND RELATED EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES;~~

~~2. SUPPORT THE DISCOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE APPLICATIONS, AGENTIC SYSTEMS, AND INTERFACES; AND~~

~~3. DEVELOP PROTOTYPES AND PROOFS OF CONCEPTS FOR MODERNIZATION EFFORTS;~~

~~(ii) MATCH STATE AGENCIES WITH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND FACULTY, RESEARCHERS, AND STUDENTS WITH EXPERTISE; AND~~

~~(III) SUPPORT THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY'S ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM TO PROVIDE A PROVING GROUND FOR EXPERIMENTATION OF HOW TO APPLY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TECHNOLOGY WITHIN STATE AGENCIES.~~

~~(C) (1) THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SHALL PROVIDE POLICY GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT FOR INTEGRATING THE WORK OF THE LAB INTO STATE AGENCIES.~~

~~(2) THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MAY PROVIDE FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LAB.~~

(C) THE LAB MAY CONSULT WITH THE GOVERNOR'S ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SUBCABINET ESTABLISHED UNDER § 3.5-806 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

(D) THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SHALL PROVIDE POLICY GUIDANCE TO THE LAB AND MAY SUPPORT FOR INTEGRATING THE INTEGRATION OF THE WORK OF THE LAB INTO STATE AGENCIES, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE.

14-101.

(c) (1) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) "Board of Regents" means the Board of Regents of Morgan State University.

(3) "University" means Morgan State University.

14-111.

(A) THE CENTER FOR EQUITABLE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MACHINE LEARNING SYSTEMS AT THE UNIVERSITY SHALL SERVE AS A STATEWIDE RESOURCE AND COORDINATING HUB TO SUPPORT STATE AGENCIES ON THE PRODUCTIVE, SECURE, AND ETHICAL USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE STATE.

(B) (1) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 EACH YEAR, THE GOVERNOR'S ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SUBCABINET ESTABLISHED UNDER § 3.5-806 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE MAY REQUEST THAT THE CENTER FOR EQUITABLE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MACHINE LEARNING SYSTEMS

COMPLETE A RESEARCH REQUEST THAT THE CENTER SHALL COORDINATE AND LEAD, COLLABORATING WITH OTHERS AS NEEDED.

(2) THE CENTER FOR EQUITABLE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MACHINE LEARNING SYSTEMS SHALL:

(I) COORDINATE AND LEAD THE RESEARCH;

(II) COLLABORATE WITH OTHER ENTITIES AS NEEDED;

(III) SUMMARIZE THE RESEARCH CONDUCTED; AND

(IV) SUMMARIZE ANY CONCLUSIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS RESULTING FROM THE RESEARCH.

(3) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 OF THE YEAR FOLLOWING THE RESEARCH REQUEST, THE CENTER FOR EQUITABLE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MACHINE LEARNING SYSTEMS SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT THAT CONTAINS THE INFORMATION LISTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO:

(I) THE GOVERNOR’S ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SUBCABINET ESTABLISHED UNDER § 3.5-806 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE; AND

(II) IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON CYBERSECURITY, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, AND BIOTECHNOLOGY ESTABLISHED UNDER § 2-10A-13 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

~~18-3501.~~

~~(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

~~(e) “Program” means the [Cybersecurity] EMERGING TECHNOLOGY Public Service Scholarship Program.~~

~~18-3502.~~

~~(a) There is a scholarship program known as the [Cybersecurity] EMERGING TECHNOLOGY Public Service Scholarship Program in the State.~~

~~(b) The purpose of the Program is to support students who are pursuing an education in programs that [are] PROVIDE CORE SKILLS directly relevant to cybersecurity OR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.~~

~~18-3503.~~

~~(b) An individual may apply to the Office for a scholarship under this subtitle if the individual:~~

~~(1) Is eligible for in-State tuition;~~

~~(2) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, is a student who:~~

~~(i) Is enrolled full-time at an eligible institution in an approved degree or certificate program that is directly relevant to cybersecurity OR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE; and~~

~~(ii) Is within 3 years of graduation from the individual's degree or certificate program;~~

~~(f) (2) Each recipient of a scholarship under this subtitle may hold the award for 6 years if the recipient:~~

~~(i) Is a part-time student;~~

~~(ii) Continues to be eligible for in-State tuition under this article;~~

~~and~~

~~(iii) Continues to be a student at the institution and takes at least 6 semester hours of courses each semester leading to a degree or certificate that is directly relevant to cybersecurity OR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.~~

~~(g) The Department shall provide information on the Program to high school students who participate in career and technology education programs related to cybersecurity OR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.~~

~~18-3504.~~

~~(a) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, for 1 year for each year that the recipient receives a scholarship under this subtitle, a scholarship recipient shall:~~

~~(i) Work in the State in the cybersecurity OR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE field for a:~~

~~1. A. Local education agency;~~

~~B. Public high school; or~~

- ~~C. Community college; or~~
- ~~2. Unit of:~~
- ~~A. State government;~~
- ~~B. County government; or~~
- ~~C. City or municipal government; or~~

~~(ii) Teach in the State in an education program that is directly relevant to cybersecurity OR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE in:~~

- ~~1. A public high school; or~~
- ~~2. A community college.~~

~~(b) In accordance with § 18-112 of this title, a scholarship recipient shall repay the Commission the funds received under this subtitle if the recipient does not:~~

~~(2) Complete an approved degree or certificate program that is directly relevant to cybersecurity OR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE at an eligible institution; and~~

**Article – State Finance and Procurement**

3.5-806.

(a) There is a Governor’s Artificial Intelligence Subcabinet of the Governor’s Executive Council.

(b) The purpose of the Subcabinet is to facilitate and enhance cooperation among units of State government, in consultation with academic institutions and industries utilizing artificial intelligence.

**(F) THE SUBCABINET MAY REQUEST RESEARCH TO BE COMPLETED UNDER § 14-111 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE.**

~~[(f)] (G)~~ The Governor shall provide the Subcabinet with sufficient resources to perform the functions of this section.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

**Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.**