

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my story. My name is Abby Boley, and I grew up in Calvert County. Currently, I am a college freshman attending school at Pitt University. My parents opened an MPCT account for me when I was 1-year-old in 2005. In February 2022, I was told that my Trust had a FAFSA rollover value of \$94,000. I received a merit scholarship and earned enough college credits when I was in high school to graduate college in 3 years versus 4. These factors were ultimately what led me to decide to enroll at Pitt while being able to remain debt free.

It was during my first year of college, that we learned my funds were frozen for rollover, and a manual recalculation showed that I only had a value of \$35K. The amount of anxiety and stress caused by MPCT has been very difficult to deal with. My focus should be on getting good grades and exceling in my studies in order for me to be successful with my career path. Instead, MPCT has made it so my focus has been on worrying about how I'm going to pay my next college bills.

I currently have a 3.8 GPA at Pitt, and have honored most of Pitt's general education requirements, so transferring to another school would cost me extra time and money in order for me to honor new general education requirements at a different school. In the end, it does not make financial sense for me to transfer.

I am only 18, and am told I may have to take out exorbitant loans with high interest to pay for my college degree. I don't understand why the 529 Board decided to make changes that were detrimental to those of us who are in college or about to start college.

My parents opened a college trust for me almost 18 years ago, so I could attend college without fear of debt. I ask that the State of Maryland prevent this from happening by adding an amendment to senate bill 959 that restores rollover values to the original contract terms immediately.