

Introduced 05.01.2023
Public Hearing 05.15.2023
Council Action 06.05.2023
Executive Action 06.06.2023
Effective Date 08.06.2023

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2023 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 5

Bill No. 14 -2023

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT establishing a Student Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Teachers; defining certain terms; setting forth certain eligibility requirements; providing that the program will be administered by the Howard County Public School System; providing for the method of appropriation and providing that the program may be subject to annual appropriation; providing for a limit to the fiscal obligation of the program; requiring certain applications; providing for the application of this Act; requiring a report; providing for a sunset of the Program after five years; and generally relating to the Student Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Teachers.

Introduced and read first time May 1, 2023. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on May 15, 2023.

By order Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on June 5, 2023 and Passed , Passed with amendments , Failed .

By order Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 6 day of June, 2023 at 1:00 a.m./p.m.

By order Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive June 6, 2023

Calvin Ball
Calvin Ball, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; ~~Strike-out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **Section 1. Be It Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the
2 *Howard County Code is amended as follows:*

3 *By adding:*

4 *Title 20. Taxes, charges and fees.*

5 *Subtitle 15. Student Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Teachers.*

6
7 **Title 20. Taxes, charges and fees.**

8 **SUBTITLE 15. STUDENT LOAN ASSISTANCE REPAYMENT PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS.**

9
10 **SECTION 20.1500. HOWARD COUNTY STUDENT LOAN ASSISTANCE REPAYMENT**
11 **PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS ESTABLISHED; SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION; PURPOSE;**
12 **APPLICABILITY.**

13 (A) *ESTABLISHED.* AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 18-3401 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE OF
14 THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, THERE IS A HOWARD COUNTY STUDENT LOAN
15 ASSISTANCE REPAYMENT PROGRAM (THE "PROGRAM").

16 (B) *SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION.* THE PROGRAM IS SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATION.

17 (C) *PURPOSE.* THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO ~~ATTRACT, RECRUIT, AND~~ RETAIN A
18 DIVERSE CADRE OF QUALIFIED TEACHERS IN THE HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL
19 SYSTEM THAT IS REFLECTIVE OF THE STUDENT POPULATION WITHIN THE COUNTY SCHOOLS.

20 (D) *APPLICABILITY.* SUBJECT TO ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS SET OUT IN SECTION 20.1502
21 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE PROGRAM SHALL APPLY TO TEACHERS EMPLOYED BY THE HOWARD
22 COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

23
24 **SECTION 20.1501. DEFINITIONS.**

25 IN THIS SUBTITLE, THE FOLLOWING TERMS SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED:

26 (A) *DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE* SHALL MEAN THE HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
27 FINANCE.

28 (B) *SCHOOL SYSTEM* SHALL MEAN THE HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

29 (C) *HIGHER EDUCATION LOAN* SHALL HAVE THE MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 18-
30 3401(B) OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND.

31

1 **SECTION 20.1502. ELIGIBILITY; COMMERCIAL LOANS.**

2 (A) *GENERALLY.* SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE COUNTY SHALL ASSIST
3 IN THE REPAYMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION LOANS OWED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:

- 4 (1) RECEIVES A GRADUATE, PROFESSIONAL, OR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE FROM AN
5 ACCREDITED COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY;
- 6 (2) OBTAINS EMPLOYMENT AS A FULL-TIME TEACHER IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM;
- 7 (3) COMMITS TO TEACH IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM FOR A PERIOD OF NOT LESS THAN 5
8 YEARS OR HAS COMPLETED 5 YEARS OF TEACHING SERVICE AND CONTINUES TO
9 SERVE IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM;
- 10 (4) IS NOT IN DEFAULT ON ANY STUDENT LOAN; AND
- 11 (5) SATISFIES ANY OTHER CRITERIA ESTABLISHED UNDER THE PROGRAM BY THE
12 COUNTY.

13 (B) *PROVISIONS SPECIFIC TO COMMERCIAL LOANS.* AN APPLICANT FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE
14 REPAYMENT OF A COMMERCIAL LOAN SHALL DEMONSTRATE TO THE COUNTY THAT THE
15 COMMERCIAL LOAN WAS USED FOR TUITION, EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES, OR LIVING EXPENSES
16 FOR GRADUATE OR UNDERGRADUATE STUDY.

17

18 **SECTION 20.1503. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.**

19 THE PROGRAM SHALL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE SCHOOL SYSTEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH
20 THE PROVISIONS SET FORTH BY THE COUNTY.

21

22 **SECTION 20.1504. APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS; USE OF FUNDS.**

23 (A) *METHOD OF APPROPRIATION.* FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM SHALL BE AS PROVIDED ON AN
24 ANNUAL BASIS IN THE COUNTY BUDGET IN AN APPROPRIATION SEPARATE FROM THE
25 COUNTY'S APPROPRIATION TO THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE HOWARD COUNTY BOARD
26 OF EDUCATION.

27 (B) *ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.* FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM MAY BE USED TO COVER
28 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES OF THE PROGRAM, NOT TO EXCEED 25% OF THE AMOUNT
29 APPROPRIATED TO FUND THE PROGRAM.

1 **SECTION 20.1505. ANNUAL LIMIT.**

2 (A) *LIMIT.* DURING A FISCAL YEAR, THE AVAILABILITY AND APPROPRIATED AMOUNT OF
3 THIS PROGRAM IS SUBJECT TO THE ANNUAL BUDGET APPROVAL. THE TOTAL EXPENDITURE
4 OF THIS PROGRAM, INCLUDING ALL LOAN REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROVIDED UNDER THE
5 PROGRAM AND RELEVANT ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS, SHALL NOT EXCEED \$300,000 DURING
6 A FISCAL YEAR.

7 (B) THE SCHOOL SYSTEM SHALL DETERMINE A METHOD TO GRANT APPLICATIONS.

8

9 **SECTION 20.1506. APPLICATION.**

10 (A) *APPLICATION.* TO RECEIVE THE LOAN REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE, A TEACHER SHALL
11 SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE SCHOOL SYSTEM:

- 12 (1) IN THE FORMAT THAT THE SCHOOL SYSTEM REQUIRES;
- 13 (2) THAT INCLUDES THE DOCUMENTATION THAT THE SCHOOL SYSTEM REQUIRES; AND
- 14 (3) ON OR BEFORE THE DATE THAT THE SCHOOL SYSTEM SETS.

15

16 **SECTION 20.1507. REPORT.**

17 (A) *REPORT TO DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.* SUBJECT TO SECTION 22.1000 OF THE COUNTY
18 CODE, THE SCHOOL SYSTEM SHALL REPORT ANNUALLY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
19 CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM UNDER THIS SUBTITLE WHICH
20 SHALL:

- 21 (1) BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER FIRST OF EACH YEAR;
- 22 (2) INCLUDE, FOR EACH RECIPIENT OF ASSISTANCE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE DURING
23 THE PREVIOUS FISCAL YEAR:
 - 24 (i) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE RECEIVING ASSISTANCE;
 - 25 (ii) THE AMOUNT OF THE ASSISTANCE GRANTED; AND
 - 26 (iii) INCLUDE AN EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAM AND ANY RECOMMENDED
27 CHANGES.

28 (B) *REPORT TO COUNTY COUNCIL AND COUNTY EXECUTIVE.* SUBJECT TO SECTION 22.1000 OF
29 THE COUNTY CODE, NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER FIRST OF EACH YEAR THE DEPARTMENT OF
30 FINANCE SHALL REPORT ANNUALLY TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND COUNTY COUNCIL

1 CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM UNDER THIS SUBTITLE AND SHALL
2 INCLUDE:

3 (1) THE DATA RECEIVED FROM THE SCHOOL SYSTEM PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (A) OF
4 THIS SECTION; AND

5 (2) AN EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAM AND ANY RECOMMENDED CHANGES.
6

7 ***Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County,
8 Maryland, that, if funded, Loan Repayment Assistance under this Act shall begin Fiscal
9 Year 2024.
10

11 ***Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County,
12 Maryland that the Howard County Student Loan Assistance Repayment Program
13 established by this Act shall remain effective through Fiscal Year 2029 and, at the end of
14 Fiscal Year 2029, with no further action required by the County Council, this Act shall be
15 abrogated and of no further force and effect.
16

17 ***Section 4. And Be It Further Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County,
18 Maryland, that this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.

Amendment 1 to Council Bill No. 14 - 2023

**BY: The Chairperson at the request
of the County Executive**

**Legislative Day 7
Date: June 5, 2023**

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment clarifies that the purpose of the Program is to retain teachers.)

1 On page 1, in line 17, strike "ATTRACT, RECRUIT, AND"

I certify this is a true copy of

Am 1 to CB14-2023

passed on

June 5, 2023

Michelle Hoover

Council Administrator

Amendment 1 to Amendment 1 to Council Bill No. 14-2023

BY: David Yungmann

Legislative Day No. 7 _____

Date: June 5, 2023

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment retains the purposes as originally introduced and requires that any teacher receiving repayment commits to work an additional 5-year period in the system.)

1 Strike line 1 in its entirety and substitute:

2

3 “On page 2:

- 4
- in line 8, strike “CONTINUES” and substitute “COMMITTS”.
 - 5 • in line 9 after “SYSTEM” insert “FOR AT LEAST AN ADDITIONAL 5 YEARS”.

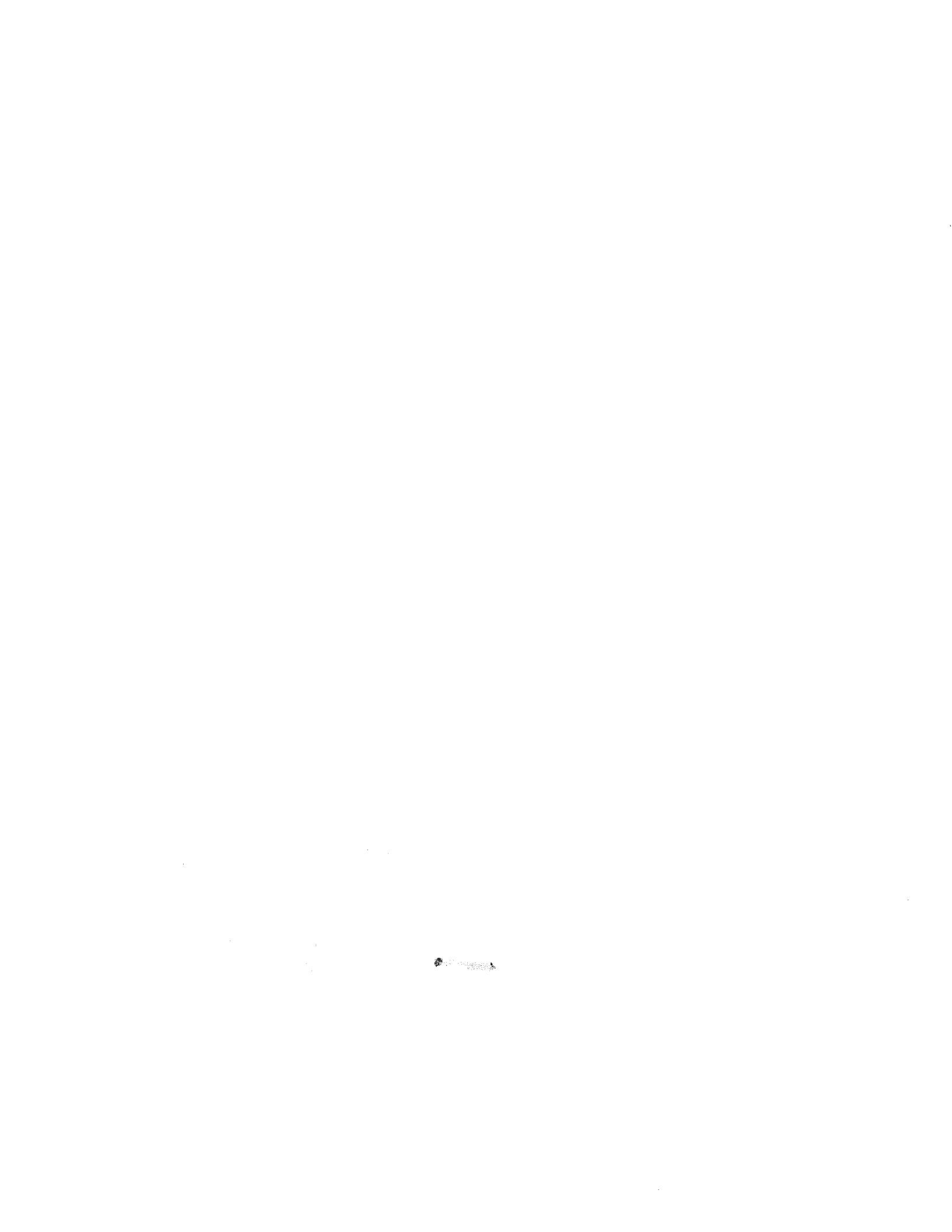
I certify this is a true copy of

AI to AI CB14-2023

passed on June 5, 2023

Not moved

Nicholas Haerzig
Council Administrator



Amendment 2 to Amendment 1 to Council Bill No. 14-2023

BY: David Yungmann

Legislative Day No. 7

Date: June 5, 2023

Amendment No.2

(This amendment retains the purposes as originally introduced and requires that any teacher receiving repayment commits to work an additional 5-year period in the system.)

1 Strike line 1 in its entirety and substitute:
2

3 “On page 2:

- 4 • In line 7, after “5” insert “MORE”
5 • in line 8, strike from “OR” down through and including “SYSTEM”.

I certify this is a true copy of

A2 A1 CB14-2023

on June 5, 2023

Michelle Harrod
Council Administrator

Not Moved

1

Amendment 2 to Council Bill No. 14-2023

BY: Opel Jones and Christiana Rigby

**Legislative Day 7
Date: June 5, 2023**

Amendment No. 2

(This Amendment removes administrative costs as a use of the fund.)

- 1 On page 2, line 23, strike “(A)”.
- 2
- 3 On page 2, strike lines 27 through 29 in their entirety.
- 4
- 5 On page 3, line 5, strike “AND RELEVANT ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS”.

I certify this is a true copy of

A2 CB14-2023

Not Moved

~~_____~~ on

June 5, 2023

Nichelle Darrin
Council Administrator

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Michelle Harrod, Administrator

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Calvin Ball, County Executive

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- 22 (2) INCLUDE, FOR EACH RECIPIENT OF ASSISTANCE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE DURING
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 - 24 (i) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE RECEIVING ASSISTANCE;
 - 25 (ii) THE AMOUNT OF THE ASSISTANCE GRANTED; AND
 - 26 (iii) INCLUDE AN EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAM AND ANY RECOMMENDED
27 CHANGES.

28 (B) *REPORT TO COUNTY COUNCIL AND COUNTY EXECUTIVE.* SUBJECT TO SECTION 22.1000 OF
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30 FINANCE SHALL REPORT ANNUALLY TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND COUNTY COUNCIL

1 CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM UNDER THIS SUBTITLE AND SHALL
2 INCLUDE:

3 (1) THE DATA RECEIVED FROM THE SCHOOL SYSTEM PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (A) OF
4 THIS SECTION; AND

5 (2) AN EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAM AND ANY RECOMMENDED CHANGES.
6

7 ***Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County,
8 Maryland, that, if funded, Loan Repayment Assistance under this Act shall begin Fiscal
9 Year 2024.

10
11 ***Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County,
12 Maryland that the Howard County Student Loan Assistance Repayment Program
13 established by this Act shall remain effective through Fiscal Year 2029 and, at the end of
14 Fiscal Year 2029, with no further action required by the County Council, this Act shall be
15 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

16
17 ***Section 4. And Be It Further Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County,
18 Maryland, that this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, stands enacted on June 6, 2023.

Michelle R. Harrod
Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been passed by the yeas and nays of two-thirds of the members of the Council notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, stands enacted on _____, 2023.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having received neither the approval nor the disapproval of the Executive within ten days of its presentation, stands enacted on _____, 2023.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, not having been considered on final reading within the time required by Charter, stands failed for want of consideration on _____, 2023.

Diane Schwartz Jones, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been disapproved by the Executive and having failed on passage upon consideration by the Council stands failed on _____, 2023.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, the withdrawal of which received a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Council, is withdrawn from further consideration on _____, 2023.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council