

SENATE BILL 888

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8lr3331
CF HB 1430

By: **Senators Lenett, Harrington, King, Madaleno, Pugh, Raskin, and Rosapepe**

Introduced and read first time: February 18, 2008

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education – Maryland Biotechnology Scholarship Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Biotechnology Scholarship Program;
4 authorizing the Maryland Higher Education Commission to make scholarship
5 awards, not to exceed a certain amount per recipient, that may be used at
6 certain institutions of higher education for certain purposes; requiring a
7 scholarship recipient to meet certain eligibility criteria to obtain and retain an
8 award; requiring a recipient to sign an agreement that on graduation the
9 recipient will commence employment in a certain field within a certain period or
10 else repay the State the amount of the scholarship award; establishing a certain
11 scholarship fund to receive money and other property; providing that it is the
12 intent of the General Assembly that certain higher education institutions form
13 relationships with employers in a certain sector; and generally relating to the
14 establishment of the Maryland Biotechnology Scholarship Program for students
15 studying to pursue a career in a biotechnology–related field.

16 BY adding to

17 Article – Education

18 Section 18–2801 through 18–2807 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 28.
19 Maryland Biotechnology Scholarship Program”

20 Annotated Code of Maryland

21 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

24 **Article – Education**

25 **SUBTITLE 28. MARYLAND BIOTECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **18-2801.**

2 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
3 INDICATED.

4 (B) “BIOTECHNOLOGY-RELATED FIELD” MEANS A FIELD IN THE LIFE
5 SCIENCES, INCLUDING THE FIELDS OF BIOTECHNOLOGY, PHARMACEUTICALS,
6 BIOMEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES, LIFE SYSTEM TECHNOLOGIES, FOOD SCIENCES,
7 ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES, AND BIOMEDICAL DEVICES.

8 (C) “SERVICE OBLIGATION” MEANS TO BE EMPLOYED FULL-TIME IN
9 THE STATE IN A BIOTECHNOLOGY-RELATED FIELD, AS DEFINED BY THE
10 COMMISSION.

11 **18-2802.**

12 THERE IS A MARYLAND BIOTECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR
13 STUDENTS WHO DEMONSTRATE OUTSTANDING POTENTIAL FOR AND PLEDGE TO
14 PURSUE A CAREER IN A BIOTECHNOLOGY-RELATED FIELD.

15 **18-2803.**

16 (A) THE COMMISSION SHALL SELECT ANNUALLY ELIGIBLE STUDENTS
17 AND OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS WHO DEMONSTRATE OUTSTANDING
18 POTENTIAL FOR AND PLEDGE TO PURSUE A CAREER IN A
19 BIOTECHNOLOGY-RELATED FIELD.

20 (B) A RECIPIENT OF A SCHOLARSHIP UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE
21 KNOWN AS A “MARYLAND BIOTECHNOLOGY SCHOLAR”.

22 (C) A RECIPIENT OF A MARYLAND BIOTECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP
23 SHALL:

24 (1) BE A MARYLAND RESIDENT;

25 (2) DEMONSTRATE TO THE COMMISSION A DEFINITE FINANCIAL
26 NEED;

27 (3) BE ACCEPTED FOR ADMISSION OR CURRENTLY ENROLLED AT
28 AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION
29 (D) OF THIS SECTION AS A FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE OR GRADUATE
30 STUDENT;

1 (4) SIGN A LETTER OF INTENT TO PERFORM THE SERVICE
2 OBLIGATION ON COMPLETION OF THE RECIPIENT'S REQUIRED STUDIES;

3 (5) ACCEPT ANY OTHER CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO THE AWARD;
4 AND

5 (6) SATISFY ANY ADDITIONAL CRITERIA THE COMMISSION MAY
6 ESTABLISH.

7 (D) THE RECIPIENT OF A SCHOLARSHIP AWARD UNDER THIS SUBTITLE
8 MAY USE THE SCHOLARSHIP TO ATTEND ANY INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
9 EDUCATION IN THE STATE THAT OFFERS COURSES OF STUDY, TRAINING, OR
10 OTHER EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES THAT ARE DESIGNED TO PREPARE
11 INDIVIDUALS FOR A CAREER IN A BIOTECHNOLOGY-RELATED FIELD, AS
12 DETERMINED UNDER THE CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION.

13 (E) EACH INDIVIDUAL AWARDED A SCHOLARSHIP UNDER THIS
14 SUBTITLE MUST HAVE INDICATED AND DEMONSTRATED TO THE COMMISSION A
15 SERIOUS INTENT TO BE EMPLOYED IN THE STATE IN A
16 BIOTECHNOLOGY-RELATED FIELD ON THE COMPLETION OF THE STUDENT'S
17 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.

18 **18-2804.**

19 (A) A RECIPIENT OF AN AWARD MADE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL
20 RECEIVE THE AWARD FOR EACH YEAR INDICATED IN WHICH THE RECIPIENT IS
21 ELIGIBLE IF THE RECIPIENT SIGNS AN AGREEMENT AT THE TIME OF THE
22 INITIAL AWARD TO:

23 (1) COMMENCE EMPLOYMENT IN THE STATE WITHIN 1 YEAR
24 AFTER COMPLETION OF THE RECIPIENT'S EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM; AND

25 (2) REPAY THE STATE THE AMOUNTS AWARDED UNDER THIS
26 SUBTITLE AS SET FORTH IN § 18-112 OF THIS TITLE IF THE RECIPIENT DOES
27 NOT:

28 (I) SATISFY THE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS OF THE
29 ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION OR FULFILL OTHER REQUIREMENTS AS PROVIDED IN
30 THIS SUBTITLE; AND

31 (II) PERFORM THE SERVICE OBLIGATION FOR 2 YEARS FOR
32 EACH YEAR THAT THE RECIPIENT HAS A SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED UNDER THIS
33 SUBTITLE.

1 **(B) THE SERVICE OBLIGATION BEGINS AFTER GRADUATION AND**
2 **CANNOT BE FULFILLED BEFORE GRADUATION FROM AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.**

3 **18-2805.**

4 **(A) THE OFFICE SHALL DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF EACH**
5 **RECIPIENT'S AWARD BASED ON:**

6 **(1) THE FINANCIAL NEED OF THE RECIPIENT;**

7 **(2) THE STRENGTH OF THE RECIPIENT'S APPLICATION; AND**

8 **(3) ANY OTHER CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION.**

9 **(B) THE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD SHALL BE EQUAL TO THE COST**
10 **OF THE RECIPIENT'S TUITION AND MANDATORY FEES, BUT THE AWARD AMOUNT**
11 **MAY NOT EXCEED THE SUM OF THESE COSTS FOR A FULL-TIME RESIDENT**
12 **STUDENT AT THE 4-YEAR PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITHIN**
13 **THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND, OTHER THAN THE UNIVERSITY OF**
14 **MARYLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND,**
15 **BALTIMORE, WITH THE HIGHEST ANNUAL EXPENSES FOR A**
16 **FULL-TIME RESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE.**

17 **(C) IN GRANTING AND DISTRIBUTING AWARDS, THE OFFICE SHALL**
18 **CONSIDER PROVIDING AWARDS TO THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE**
19 **APPLICANTS POSSIBLE.**

20 **(D) EACH RECIPIENT OF A SCHOLARSHIP AWARD UNDER THIS SUBTITLE**
21 **MAY HOLD THE AWARD FOR UP TO 4 YEARS IF THE RECIPIENT:**

22 **(1) CONTINUES TO BE A RESIDENT OF THE STATE;**

23 **(2) CONTINUES TO BE A FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE OR**
24 **GRADUATE STUDENT AT AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION, AS DETERMINED BY THE**
25 **COMMISSION;**

26 **(3) IN THE JUDGMENT OF THE INSTITUTION, IS MAKING**
27 **SATISFACTORY PROGRESS TOWARD A DEGREE; AND**

28 **(4) MAINTAINS THE STANDARDS OF THE INSTITUTION.**

29 **18-2806.**

1 (A) **THERE IS A MARYLAND BIOTECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP FUND IN**
2 **THE COMMISSION.**

3 **(B) THE COMMISSION:**

4 (1) **MAY ACCEPT ANY GIFT OR GRANT FROM ANY PERSON FOR**
5 **THE MARYLAND BIOTECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP FUND;**

6 (2) **SHALL USE ANY GIFT OR GRANT THAT IT RECEIVES FOR**
7 **MARYLAND BIOTECHNOLOGY SCHOLARS; AND**

8 (3) **SHALL DEPOSIT ANY GIFT OR GRANT THAT IT RECEIVES FOR**
9 **THE MARYLAND BIOTECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP FUND WITH THE STATE**
10 **TREASURER, IN A NONBUDGETED ACCOUNT FOR USE ONLY FOR MARYLAND**
11 **BIOTECHNOLOGY SCHOLARS.**

12 **18-2807.**

13 **ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31 OF EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSION SHALL**
14 **SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT ON THE MARYLAND BIOTECHNOLOGY**
15 **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH §**
16 **2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the
18 General Assembly that higher education institutions in the State that offer courses of
19 study, training, or other educational activities that are designed to prepare individuals
20 for a career in a biotechnology-related field form relationships with employers in the
21 State's biotechnology sector in order to provide students with biotechnology-related
22 professional opportunities, strengthen the State's biotechnology workforce, and
23 promote growth in the biotechnology sector in the State.

24 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 2008.