

SENATE BILL 538

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1lr1869
CF 1lr1870

By: **Senator Guzzone**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2021

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Community College Tuition and Residency Waivers – Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor, beginning in a certain fiscal year, to include in
4 the annual State budget for the Maryland Higher Education Commission a General
5 Fund appropriation of a certain amount to fund certain community college tuition
6 and residency waivers; requiring the Commission to distribute the appropriation to
7 each community college board of trustees based on the number of qualifying students
8 enrolled in each community college in proportion to the total number of qualifying
9 students, as determined by the Commission; requiring the Commission to adopt
10 certain regulations or guidelines; defining a certain term; and generally relating to
11 community college funding for State–mandated tuition and residency waivers.

12 BY adding to
13 Article – Education
14 Section 16–322
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Education**

20 **16–322.**

21 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “QUALIFYING STUDENT” MEANS A COMMUNITY
22 COLLEGE STUDENT WHO RECEIVES A TUITION OR RESIDENCY WAIVER AS ONE OF
23 THE FOLLOWING:

24 (1) A FOSTER CARE RECIPIENT OR AN UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 YOUTH UNDER § 15–106.1 OF THIS ARTICLE;

2 (2) A UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES ACTIVE DUTY MEMBER, THE
3 SPOUSE OR CHILD OF AN ARMED FORCES ACTIVE DUTY MEMBER, A UNITED STATES
4 ARMED FORCES VETERAN WHO HAS BEEN HONORABLY DISCHARGED, OR A MEMBER
5 OF THE NATIONAL GUARD UNDER § 15–106.4 OF THIS ARTICLE;

6 (3) THE SON OR DAUGHTER OF A STATE OR LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY
7 EMPLOYEE UNDER § 15–106.7 OF THIS ARTICLE;

8 (4) A SENIOR CITIZEN UNDER § 16–106(B) OF THIS TITLE;

9 (5) AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY UNDER § 16–106(C) OF THIS
10 TITLE;

11 (6) A STUDENT ENROLLED IN AN EDUCATION PROGRAM LEADING TO
12 LICENSURE IN NURSING UNDER § 16–310(A)(4) OF THIS SUBTITLE;

13 (7) A PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER UNDER § 16–310(A)(6) OF THIS
14 SUBTITLE; OR

15 (8) A STUDENT ENROLLED IN AN INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM THAT
16 THE COMMISSION DESIGNATES AS A HEALTH MANPOWER SHORTAGE PROGRAM
17 UNDER § 16–310(D) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

18 (B) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE
19 GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL FOR THE COMMISSION
20 AN APPROPRIATION OF \$10,000,000 TO FUND STATE-MANDATED TUITION AND
21 RESIDENCY WAIVERS FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES.

22 (C) THE COMMISSION SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE APPROPRIATION REQUIRED
23 UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION TO EACH BOARD OF TRUSTEES BASED ON
24 THE NUMBER OF ENROLLED QUALIFYING STUDENTS AT EACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
25 IN PROPORTION TO THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ENROLLED QUALIFYING STUDENTS, AS
26 DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION.

27 (D) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT ANY REGULATIONS OR GUIDELINES
28 NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
30 1, 2021.