

SENATE BILL 70

E4, K3, P1

0lr0074

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Chair, Finance Committee (By Request – Departmental – Labor)**

Requested: September 17, 2019

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2020

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Correctional Institutions – Correctional Education Council – Mandatory**
3 **Education Program Requirements**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the minimum number of calendar days that the Correctional
5 Education Council must require certain inmates in correctional institutions to
6 participate in a certain mandatory education program; and generally relating to the
7 mandatory education program for inmates in correctional institutions.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
9 Article – Labor and Employment
10 Section 11–902(a)(1)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article – Labor and Employment
15 Section 11–902(b)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Labor and Employment**

21 11–902.

22 (a) (1) The Correctional Education Council shall develop and recommend an
23 educational and workforce training program for each correctional institution in the Division
24 of Correction.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(b) (1) The Council shall adopt regulations for all correctional institutions in the Division of Correction for the implementation of a mandatory education program for all inmates who fail to attain a minimum educational standard as set forth in this subsection.

(2) The regulations adopted by the Council shall:

(i) require that the educational standard shall be the attainment of a General Educational Development (GED) diploma or a verified high school diploma;

(ii) apply only to any inmate who:

1. was received by the Division of Correction after July 1, 1987;

2. has 18 months or more remaining to be served before a mandatory supervision release date;

3. is not exempted due to a medical, developmental, or learning disability; and

4. does not possess a General Educational Development (GED) diploma or a verified high school diploma; and

(iii) require any inmate who is not exempted under item (ii)3 of this paragraph to participate in:

1. the mandatory education program for at least [120] 240 calendar days; or

2. a workforce skills training program.

(3) The Division of Correction shall report to the Parole Commission the academic progress of an inmate in the mandatory education program.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2020.