HOUSE BILL 774

F2 5lr2155 SB 353/23 – EEE & B&T

By: Delegate Davis

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2025

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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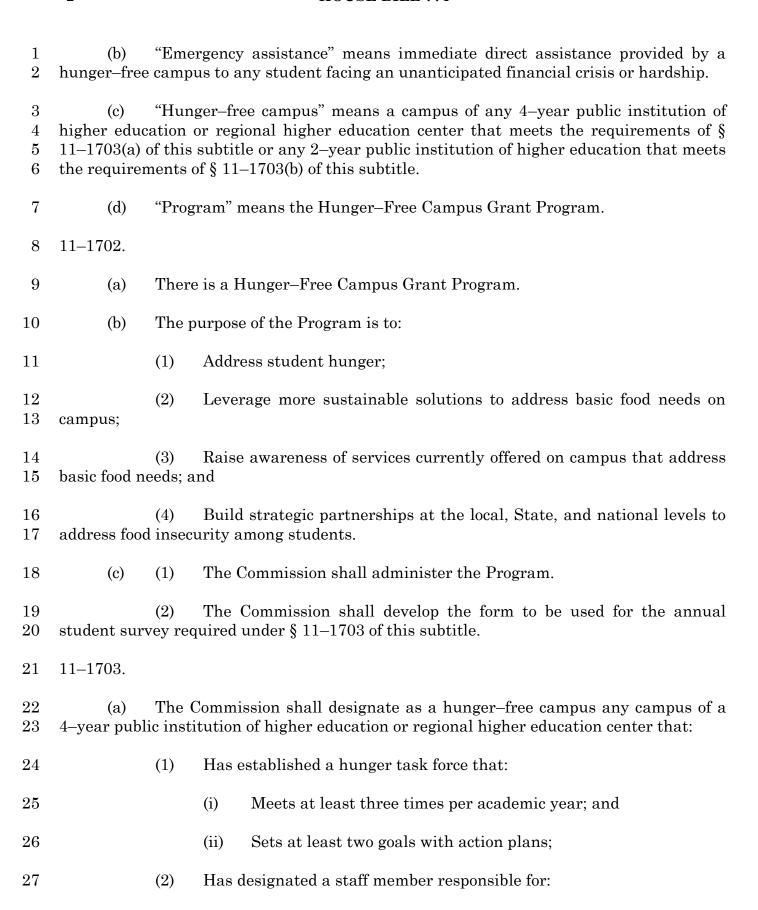
Higher Education - Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program - Alterations

- 3 FOR the purpose of altering the requirement of the Governor, beginning in a certain fiscal 4 year, to include in the annual budget bill a certain appropriation for the 5 Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program; altering eligibility requirements for the 6 Program; requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to allocate certain 7 grant funding to certain public institutions of higher education or regional higher 8 education centers for certain purposes; authorizing the Commission to maintain a 9 certain percentage of each grant to administer the Program; and generally relating to alterations to the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program. 10
- 11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
- 12 Article Education
- 13 Section 11–1701 through 11–1703
- 14 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 15 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
- 16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 17 Article Education
- 18 Section 11–1704 through 11–1706
- 19 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 20 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
- 21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 22 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 23 Article Education
- 24 11–1701.
- 25 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.





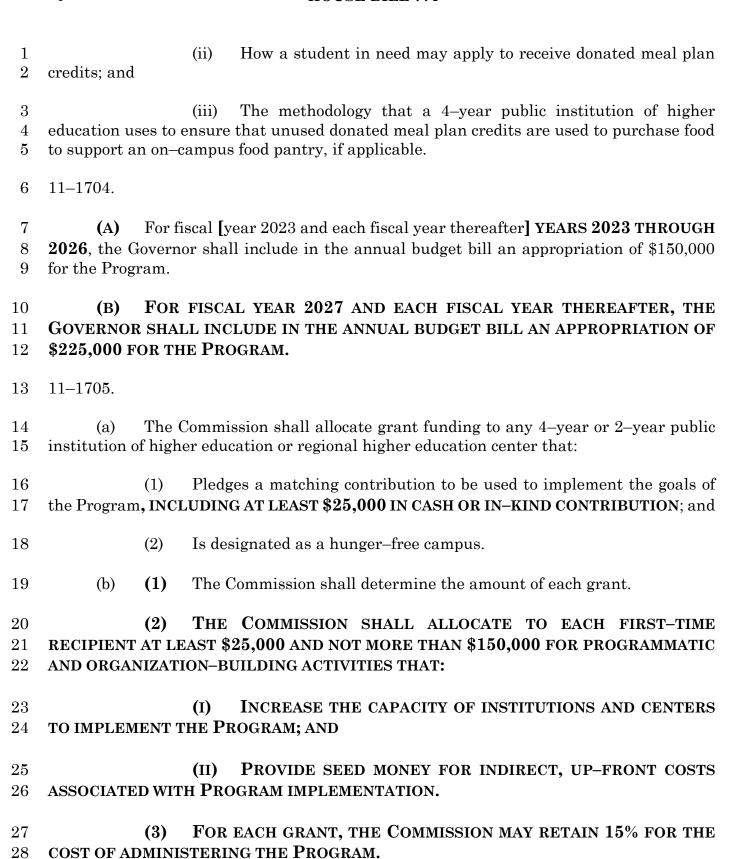
- 1 Assisting students in enrolling in the Supplemental Nutrition (i) 2 Assistance Program; or 3 (ii) Connecting students with available Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program outreach partners that can assist students in enrolling in the 4 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: 5 6 Has designated a staff member responsible for informing students (3)7 participating in federal work-study programs that they are eligible for the Supplemental 8 Nutrition Assistance Program; 9 **(4)** (i) Provides options for students to utilize Supplemental Nutrition 10 Assistance Program benefits at campus retailers; or 11 (ii) Provides students with information on the names and locations 12 of off-campus retailers that accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits; 13 (5)Participates in an awareness day campaign activity and plans at least 14 one campus awareness event during the National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness 15 Week: 16 (6) Provides at least one food pantry on campus, or enables students in need to receive food through a separate, stigma-free arrangement; 17 18 Develops and maintains a meal-sharing program that allows students (7)to donate their unused meal plan credits to be distributed to students in need for use in 19 20 campus dining halls or at an on-campus food pantry, if applicable: 21Conducts a standardized annual student survey on hunger and submits 22the results to the Commission; and 23Submits an annual report detailing its efforts to address student 24hunger to the Commission. 25The Commission shall designate as a hunger-free campus any campus of a 26 2-year public institution of higher education that meets all of the requirements for 4-year public institutions of higher education or regional higher education centers identified in 27 28 subsection (a) of this section, with the exception of the requirements in subsection (a)(4) and (7) of this section. 29
- 30 (c) (1) Each 4-year public institution of higher education may develop its own 31 procedures for a meal-sharing program.
- 32 (2) The 4-year public institutions of higher education shall make 33 information about the meal-sharing program publicly available, including:

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(i) How a student may donate unused meal plan credits;

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The Commission shall incorporate into the 2026–2030 State Plan for Higher

Education a plan for addressing any basic needs insecurity of higher education students.

- (d) The Commission shall adopt regulations necessary to carry out the 1 (1) 2 requirements of this subtitle. 3 The regulations adopted under this subsection shall allow grant (2)recipients to use grant funds flexibly to implement the goals of the Program, including 4 giving recipients the ability to: 5 6 (i) Support emergency assistance; 7 (ii) Hire staff to manage initiatives related to the Program; and 8 (iii) Use grant funds for operational activities related to the Program. 9 11-1706.10 (a) Not later than 2 years after establishing the Program, the Commission shall 11 report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, 12 the General Assembly on the implementation of this subtitle. (b) The report shall include: 13 14 (1) The number and amounts ofgrants awarded, INCLUDING DEMOGRAPHIC DATA OF STUDENTS BENEFITING FROM THE PROGRAM: 15 16 The impact of the Program on establishing hunger-free campuses at public institutions of higher education and regional higher education centers; 17 18 The impact of awarded grants on reducing the number of students 19 experiencing food insecurity; [and] 20 **(4)** Recommendations on expanding the Program; AND 21 **(5) INFORMATION BEST PRACTICES AMONG** ON **OTHER**
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

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HUNGER-FREE CAMPUS PROGRAMS.