

SENATE BILL 511

F2
HB 771/24 – APP

5lr2612
CF 5lr2615

By: **Senator Henson**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Senior Higher Education Institutions – Pregnant and Parenting**
3 **Students – Plan Requirements**
4 **(Pregnant and Parenting Student Support Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring certain public senior higher education institutions to adopt a
6 plan regarding pregnant and parenting students using certain guidelines; requiring
7 each public senior higher education institution to post the plan on the institution's
8 website; and generally relating to pregnant and parenting students and certain
9 public senior higher education institutions.

10 BY adding to
11 Article – Education
12 Section 15–140
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Education**

18 **15–140.**

19 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
20 **INDICATED.**

21 **(2) “PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENT” MEANS A STUDENT**
22 **ENROLLED AT A PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION WHO:**

23 **(i) IS PREGNANT; OR**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(II) EXERCISES CARE, CUSTODY, OR CONTROL OVER A CHILD.

(3) (I) "PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION"
MEANS:

1. THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS OF THE
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND;

2. MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY; AND

3. ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND.

(II) "PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION" DOES
NOT INCLUDE:

1. THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES;

2. THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS;
OR

3. THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE.

(B) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT ALL STUDENTS AT AN
INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE, REGARDLESS OF THEIR
GENDER, SHALL ENJOY FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION OF ANY KIND, INCLUDING
PREGNANCY DISCRIMINATION AS DESCRIBED IN TITLE IX OF THE EDUCATION
AMENDMENTS OF 1972.

(C) (1) EACH PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION SHALL
ADOPT A PLAN REGARDING PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS THAT IS
CONSISTENT WITH TITLE IX OF THE FEDERAL HIGHER EDUCATION ACT.

(2) THE PLAN REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS
SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE:

(I) REFERRAL TO ON-CAMPUS OR OFF-CAMPUS SERVICES TO
ASSIST REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF OR ELIGIBILITY FOR GOVERNMENT
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, INCLUDING:

1. THE SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN;

1 2. **THE CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM;**

2 3. **THE MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;**

3 4. **THE MARYLAND CHILDREN’S HEALTH INSURANCE**
4 **PROGRAM; AND**

5 5. **ANY OTHER PROGRAMS, SCHOLARSHIPS, OR**
6 **SUBSIDIES FOR PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS;**

7 (II) **THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION ABOUT OR REFERRALS**
8 **TO RESOURCES REGARDING ADOPTION SERVICES;**

9 (III) **THE AVAILABILITY OF INSTITUTIONAL ACCOMMODATIONS**
10 **FOR PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS, INCLUDING PRIORITY CLASS**
11 **REGISTRATION AND FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING OPTIONS; AND**

12 (IV) **A REFERRAL NETWORK OF ON-CAMPUS AND OFF-CAMPUS**
13 **HEALTH CARE SERVICE PROVIDERS.**

14 (D) **ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2026, EACH PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER**
15 **EDUCATION INSTITUTION SHALL POST THE PLAN ADOPTED UNDER SUBSECTION (C)**
16 **OF THIS SECTION ON THE INSTITUTION’S WEBSITE.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
18 1, 2025.