

SENATE BILL 845

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CF HB 1016

By: **Senators Ferguson and Hettleman**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 2, 2020

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education – Maryland Corps Program Fund – Alterations**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding the purpose and authorized uses of the Maryland Corps
4 Program Fund to include covering expenses incurred to study certain matters and
5 providing funding to match certain gifts or grants; requiring, in a certain fiscal year
6 and each fiscal year thereafter, funds for the Maryland Corps Program to be as
7 provided in the State budget for the Board of Directors of the Program to cover
8 certain additional expenses; requiring, for a certain fiscal year and each fiscal year
9 thereafter, the Governor to include in the annual budget bill a certain appropriation
10 to the Fund; and generally relating to the Maryland Corps Program Fund.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Education
13 Section 24–1108 and 24–1109
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

16 Preamble

17 WHEREAS, America’s Service Commissions recently presented Governor Hogan
18 with its 2019 State Service Leadership Award, stating, “Governor Hogan has been a
19 champion of national and community service as a cost effective solution to solving state
20 needs. His administration’s support of the Maryland Governor’s Office on Service and
21 Volunteerism (GOSV) and promotion of AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs across the
22 state has enabled Maryland to continue its long history of leading in service”; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 WHEREAS, In 2016, Governor Hogan signed legislation creating the Maryland
2 Corps, a pilot program to give young adults in Maryland the chance to spend a year in
3 community service before college; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2018, when announcing Maryland as a top 10 AmeriState and
5 Baltimore as a top 10 AmeriCity, Governor Hogan said, “Our administration is proud of
6 this outstanding achievement for Baltimore City and Maryland. AmeriCorps members
7 devote their time, energy, and expertise to serving our communities and addressing the
8 important issues that affect our state, and today’s announcement further illustrates the
9 commitment of our citizens to changing Maryland for the better and making a difference in
10 the world”; and

11 WHEREAS, The fiscal year 2017 operating budget included \$150,000 for the
12 Maryland Corps Program, but Governor Hogan did not release the funds; now, therefore,

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

15 **Article – Education**

16 24–1108.

17 (a) There is a Maryland Corps Program Fund.

18 (b) The purpose of the Fund is to:

19 (1) Provide stipends to corps participants;

20 (2) Provide scholarships to corps participants who have completed the
21 Program to be used at institutions of higher education in the State toward vocational
22 certificates, associate’s degrees, and bachelor’s degrees;

23 (3) Cover expenses incurred by the Board, including expenses incurred
24 during the development, issuance, awarding, and funding of the RFP; [and]

25 (4) Cover expenses incurred by the operator selected under § 24–1105 of
26 this subtitle, as determined by the Board to be relevant to the successful operation of the
27 Program;

28 **(5) COVER EXPENSES INCURRED TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL USE OF**
29 **THE PROGRAM AS A WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TOOL IN THE STATE;**

30 **(6) COVER EXPENSES INCURRED TO STUDY HOW ALUMNI OF THE**
31 **PROGRAM COULD BE BETTER POSITIONED TO MEET THE CURRENT AND FUTURE**
32 **NEEDS OF EMPLOYERS IN THE STATE; AND**

1 **(7) PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM TO MATCH GIFTS OR**
2 **GRANTS RECEIVED BY THE BOARD FOR THE FUND.**

3 (c) The Board shall administer the Fund.

4 (d) The Fund is a continuing, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to § 7–302 of the
5 State Finance and Procurement Article.

6 (e) (1) The State Treasurer shall hold the Fund separately and shall invest the
7 money in the Fund in the same manner as other State money may be invested.

8 (2) Any investment earnings of the Fund shall be credited to the Fund.

9 (f) The Comptroller shall account for the Fund.

10 (g) The Board:

11 (1) May accept any gift or grant from any person for the Fund;

12 (2) Shall use any gift or grant that it receives for the reasons stated under
13 subsection (b) of this section; and

14 (3) Shall deposit any gift or grant that it receives for the Fund with the
15 State Treasurer.

16 (h) The Fund consists of:

17 (1) Money appropriated under § 24–1109 of this subtitle;

18 (2) Gifts or grants received by the Board for the Fund;

19 (3) Investment earnings of the Fund; and

20 (4) Any other money from any other source accepted for the benefit of the
21 Fund.

22 (i) The Fund may be used only for:

23 (1) Providing stipends to corps participants;

24 (2) Providing scholarships to corps participants who have completed the
25 Program to be used at institutions of higher education in the State toward vocational
26 certificates, associate's degrees, and bachelor's degrees;

27 (3) Covering expenses incurred by the Board, including expenses incurred
28 during the development, issuance, awarding, and funding of the RFP; [and]

1 (4) Covering expenses incurred by the operator selected under § 24–1105
2 of this subtitle, as determined by the Board to be relevant to the successful operation of the
3 Program;

4 (5) **COVERING EXPENSES INCURRED TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL USE**
5 **OF THE PROGRAM AS A WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TOOL IN THE STATE;**

6 (6) **COVERING EXPENSES INCURRED TO STUDY HOW ALUMNI OF THE**
7 **PROGRAM COULD BE BETTER POSITIONED TO MEET THE CURRENT AND FUTURE**
8 **NEEDS OF EMPLOYERS IN THE STATE; AND**

9 (7) **PROVIDING FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM TO MATCH GIFTS OR**
10 **GRANTS RECEIVED BY THE BOARD FOR THE FUND.**

11 (j) Any unspent portion of the Fund may not be transferred or revert to the
12 General Fund of the State but shall remain in the Fund to be used for the purposes specified
13 in this subtitle.

14 (k) (1) Beginning with fiscal year 2018, at the end of the fiscal year, the Board
15 shall prepare an annual report of the Fund that includes an accounting of all financial
16 receipts and expenditures to and from the Fund.

17 (2) The Board shall submit a copy of the report to the General Assembly in
18 accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article.

19 (l) The Fund may be subject to an audit by the Legislative Auditor.
20 24–1109.

21 (a) For fiscal year 2018, funds for the Program shall be as provided in the State
22 budget for the Board to develop, issue, and award the RFP described under § 24–1105 of
23 this subtitle.

24 (b) For fiscal year 2019, funds for the Program shall be as provided in the State
25 budget for the Board to disburse stipends to corps participants and to cover any
26 administrative or other costs incurred by the Board or operator selected under § 24–1105
27 of this subtitle to operationalize the Program.

28 (c) For fiscal year 2020 and each fiscal year thereafter, funds for the Program
29 shall be as provided in the State budget for the Board to:

30 (1) Provide stipends to corps participants;

31 (2) Provide scholarships to corps participants who have completed the
32 Program to be used at institutions of higher education in the State toward vocational

1 certificates, associate’s degrees, and bachelor’s degrees;

2 (3) Cover expenses incurred by the Board, including expenses incurred
3 during the development, issuance, awarding, and funding of the RFP; and

4 (4) Cover expenses incurred by the operator selected under § 24–1105 of
5 this subtitle, as determined by the Board to be relevant to the successful operation of the
6 Program.

7 (D) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, FUNDS
8 FOR THE PROGRAM SHALL BE AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE
9 ACTIVITIES SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION AND FOR THE BOARD
10 TO:

11 (1) COVER EXPENSES INCURRED TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL USE OF
12 THE PROGRAM AS A WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TOOL IN THE STATE;

13 (2) COVER EXPENSES INCURRED TO STUDY HOW ALUMNI OF THE
14 PROGRAM COULD BE BETTER POSITIONED TO MEET THE CURRENT AND FUTURE
15 NEEDS OF EMPLOYERS IN THE STATE; AND

16 (3) PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM TO MATCH GIFTS OR
17 GRANTS RECEIVED BY THE BOARD FOR THE FUND.

18 (E) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE
19 GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF
20 \$150,000 TO THE FUND.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
22 1, 2020.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.