

SENATE BILL 1

F2

EMERGENCY BILL
ENROLLED BILL

(11r1743)

— *Budget and Taxation and Education, Health, and Environmental
Affairs/Appropriations* —

Introduced by **Senators Sydnor, Beidle, Feldman, Griffith, Hayes, Hettleman, Kelley, Lam, Patterson, Waldstreicher, Washington, ~~and Young Young~~, Augustine, Benson, Carozza, Carter, Eckardt, Edwards, Elfreth, Ellis, Ferguson, Guzzone, Hester, Jackson, Kagan, King, Klausmeier, Kramer, Lee, McCray, Peters, Pinsky, Reilly, Rosapepe, Salling, Simonaire, Smith, West, and Zucker**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Historically Black Colleges and Universities – Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to establish a
4 certain new unit to assist in evaluating and reviewing certain proposals for new
5 programs and substantial modifications of existing programs by an institution of
6 postsecondary education; requiring the Governor, beginning in a certain fiscal year,
7 to include in the annual budget bill an amount sufficient to employ certain staff;
8 requiring the Governor, in certain fiscal years, to include in the annual budget bill
9 certain funds for certain historically black colleges and universities in the State;

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.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 specifying how certain funds shall be allocated; providing for the allowable uses of
2 certain funds; providing that certain funds be in addition to certain base funds
3 appropriated to certain institutions; prohibiting certain funds from being included
4 in certain calculations of State funding for certain institutions of higher education
5 under certain provisions of law; requiring certain historically black colleges and
6 universities to report annually, for a certain duration, certain information to the
7 Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, the House
8 Appropriations Committee, and the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee;
9 establishing the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Reserve Fund as a
10 special, nonlapsing fund; specifying the purpose of the Fund; requiring the
11 Commission to administer the Fund; requiring the State Treasurer to hold the Fund
12 and the Comptroller to account for the Fund; specifying the contents of the Fund;
13 specifying the purpose for which the Fund may be used; providing for the investment
14 of money in and expenditures from the Fund; requiring interest earnings of the Fund
15 to be credited to the Fund; exempting the Fund from a certain provision of law
16 requiring interest earnings on State money to accrue to the General Fund of the
17 State; requiring the Cigarette Restitution Fund to include a separate account
18 consisting of payments received by the State as a result of certain litigation;
19 requiring distributions from a certain separate account to supplant a certain general
20 fund appropriation; stating certain findings of the General Assembly; defining a
21 certain term; requiring the University System of Maryland William E. Kirwan
22 Center for Academic Innovation, in collaboration with UMUC Ventures, to assist
23 certain historically black colleges and universities with developing and offering
24 online academic programs; providing that certain procurements and contracts are
25 not subject to the approval of the Board of Public Works under a certain provision of
26 law; authorizing the Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland to use
27 the fund balance to support the development and offering of certain online programs;
28 requiring the ~~Commission, in consultation with certain institutions, to study its own~~
29 ~~policies and practices and report the results on or before a certain date~~ Department
30 of Legislative Services to contract with a consultant to study the capacity and
31 capability of the Commission to carry out certain policies and practices and report the
32 results in an interim and final report on or before certain dates; requiring the
33 Commission to provide certain information to the Department of Legislative Services
34 or a certain consultant; encouraging certain historically black colleges and
35 universities to hire a certain consultant and report the results and any findings on
36 or before a certain date; encouraging certain historically black colleges and
37 universities to use certain funds to implement and support the Blueprint for
38 Maryland's Future; requiring the Governor to provide a certain allocation in a
39 certain fiscal year for certain fees and expenses under certain circumstances;
40 authorizing the Attorney General to execute a certain final settlement agreement;
41 making conforming changes; making certain provisions of this Act subject to a
42 certain contingency; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating
43 to historically black colleges and universities in the State.

44 BY adding to

45 Article – Education

46 Section 10–214, 11–206.3, 15–126, and 15–127

1 Annotated Code of Maryland
2 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

3 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
4 Article – State Finance and Procurement
5 Section 6–226(a)(2)(i) and 7–317(a)
6 Annotated Code of Maryland
7 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – State Finance and Procurement
10 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)122. and 123. and 7–317(b), (e), and (h)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

13 BY adding to
14 Article – State Finance and Procurement
15 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)124. and 7–317(h)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Education**

21 **10–214.**

22 **THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:**

23 **(1) THE STATE OF MARYLAND WISHES TO PROVIDE ALL OF ITS**
24 **CITIZENS WITH EQUAL ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION AT EXCELLENT AND**
25 **AFFORDABLE PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES;**

26 **(2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS CAREFULLY REVIEWED THE**
27 **MEMORANDUM OPINIONS AND ORDERS OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
28 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND, ISSUED OCTOBER 7, 2013, AND NOVEMBER 8,**
29 **2017, IN THE ACTION, THE COALITION FOR EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE IN**
30 **MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION, ET AL. V. MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION**
31 **COMMISSION, ET AL., 06–CV–02773–CCB;**

32 **(3) THE DISTRICT COURT FOUND THAT THE STATE FAILED TO**
33 **ELIMINATE A TRACEABLE DE JURE ERA POLICY OF UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION OF**
34 **PROGRAMS AT HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN THE STATE**

1 THAT HAS EXACERBATED THE RACIAL IDENTIFIABILITY OF MARYLAND'S
2 HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES;

3 (4) MARYLAND'S HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND
4 UNIVERSITIES, WHICH ARE BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY, COPPIN STATE
5 UNIVERSITY, MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, AND UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
6 EASTERN SHORE, SHOULD RECEIVE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT TO REMEDY THE
7 FINDINGS OF THE DISTRICT COURT;

8 (5) THE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT SHALL BE PROVIDED IN THE FORM OF
9 ADDITIONAL FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$577,000,000, WHICH SHALL BE
10 PROVIDED IN AMOUNTS AS CALCULATED UNDER § 15-126 OF THIS ARTICLE IN EACH
11 OF FISCAL YEARS 2023 THROUGH 2032, AND SHALL BE ALLOCATED AMONG THE
12 INSTITUTIONS; AND

13 (6) THE PROVISIONS OF §§ 15-126 AND 15-127 OF THIS ARTICLE
14 SHALL ENSURE THAT MARYLAND'S HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND
15 UNIVERSITIES SHALL RECEIVE THIS SUPPORT.

16 11-206.3.

17 (A) THE COMMISSION SHALL ESTABLISH A PROGRAM EVALUATION UNIT TO
18 EVALUATE NEW PROGRAMS AND SUBSTANTIAL MODIFICATIONS.

19 (B) (1) THE UNIT ESTABLISHED IN THIS SECTION SHALL HAVE AT LEAST
20 10 STAFF MEMBERS WHO ARE EMPLOYEES OF THE COMMISSION.

21 (2) THE STAFF MEMBERS ASSIGNED TO THIS UNIT SHALL BE IN
22 ADDITION TO THE CURRENT WORKFORCE OF THE COMMISSION.

23 (C) THE UNIT ESTABLISHED IN THIS SECTION SHALL ASSIST THE
24 COMMISSION IN REVIEWING AND EVALUATING PROPOSALS FOR NEW PROGRAMS
25 AND SUBSTANTIAL MODIFICATIONS OF EXISTING PROGRAMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH
26 §§ 11-206 AND 11-206.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

27 (D) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2023, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN
28 THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION IN AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO
29 EMPLOY THE 10 STAFF MEMBERS REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION.

30 15-126.

31 (A) ~~FOR SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION, FOR~~ FISCAL YEAR
32 2023, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL A GENERAL
33 FUND APPROPRIATION OF AT LEAST:

- 1 (1) **\$16,790,700 FOR BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY;**
2 (2) **\$9,000,000 FOR COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY;**
3 (3) **\$24,003,200 FOR MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY; AND**
4 (4) **\$9,693,600 FOR UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE.**

5 **(B) (1) ~~FOR~~ SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION, FOR EACH**
6 **OF FISCAL YEARS 2024 THROUGH 2031, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE**
7 **ANNUAL BUDGET BILL A GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION TO THE HISTORICALLY**
8 **BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AS CALCULATED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF**
9 **THIS SUBSECTION.**

10 **(2) THE FUNDS PROVIDED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS**
11 **SUBSECTION SHALL BE ALLOCATED TO EACH INSTITUTION IN AN AMOUNT THAT IS**
12 **THE GREATER OF:**

13 **(I) \$9,000,000; OR**

14 **(II) THE PRODUCT OF:**

15 **1. THE PERCENTAGE SHARE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED**
16 **DURING THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING ACADEMIC YEAR AT EACH INSTITUTION**
17 **COMPARED TO THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED AT ALL OF THE**
18 **HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES; AND**

19 **2. \$57,700,000.**

20 **(3) (I) ~~FOR~~ SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION, FOR**
21 **FISCAL YEAR 2032, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL**
22 **A GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION EQUAL TO THE DIFFERENCE OF:**

23 **1. \$577,000,000; MINUS**

24 **2. THE SUM OF THE TOTAL FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR**
25 **EACH OF FISCAL YEARS 2023 THROUGH 2031 UNDER THIS SECTION.**

26 **(II) THE FUNDS PROVIDED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS**
27 **PARAGRAPH SHALL BE ALLOCATED TO EACH HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE AND**
28 **UNIVERSITY IN AN AMOUNT THAT IS EQUAL TO THE PRODUCT OF:**

1 **1. THE PERCENTAGE SHARE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED**
2 **DURING THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING ACADEMIC YEAR AT EACH INSTITUTION**
3 **COMPARED TO THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED AT ALL OF THE**
4 **HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES; AND**

5 **2. THE AMOUNT OF GENERAL FUNDS DETERMINED FOR**
6 **FISCAL YEAR 2032 UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.**

7 **(4) AT THE END OF EACH FISCAL YEAR, ANY UNUSED FUNDS**
8 **PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE HISTORICALLY**
9 **BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES RESERVE FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER §**
10 **15-127 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

11 **(c) FUNDS PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION:**

12 **(1) SHALL BE SUPPLEMENTAL TO, AND MAY NOT SUPPLANT, FUNDS**
13 **APPROPRIATED TO PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE**
14 **BUDGET;**

15 **(2) MAY BE USED FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES, AS DETERMINED**
16 **BY THE UNIVERSITY RECEIVING THE FUNDS:**

17 **(i) SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID SUPPORT SERVICES;**

18 **(ii) FACULTY RECRUITMENT AND DEVELOPMENT;**

19 **(iii) EXPANDING AND IMPROVING EXISTING ACADEMIC**
20 **PROGRAMS, INCLUDING ONLINE PROGRAMS;**

21 **(iv) DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW ACADEMIC**
22 **PROGRAMS, INCLUDING ONLINE PROGRAMS;**

23 **(v) ACADEMIC SUPPORT; AND**

24 **(vi) MARKETING; AND**

25 **(3) MAY NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE CALCULATIONS OF STATE**
26 **FUNDING UNDER §§ 16-305, 16-512, AND 17-104 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

27 **(d) IF THE SPECIAL ACCOUNT IN THE CIGARETTE RESTITUTION FUND**
28 **ESTABLISHED UNDER § 7-317 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT**
29 **ARTICLE HAS A BALANCE, THE GOVERNOR SHALL USE THE BALANCE TO SUPPLANT**
30 **THE GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION TO THE HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND**
31 **UNIVERSITIES REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION.**

1 ~~(D)~~ (E) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 EACH YEAR, BEGINNING IN 2023
2 AND GOING THROUGH 2033, EACH HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY
3 SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE
4 STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF
5 THE HOUSE, THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, AND THE SENATE BUDGET
6 AND TAXATION COMMITTEE ON:

7 (1) THE USES OF THE FUNDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION
8 (C)(2) OF THIS SECTION; AND

9 (2) ANY NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAM DEVELOPED WITH RESPECT TO:

10 (I) DEVELOPMENT COSTS;

11 (II) STARTUP COSTS; AND

12 (III) ONGOING COSTS TO MAINTAIN THE PROGRAM.

13 15-127.

14 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “FUND” MEANS THE HISTORICALLY BLACK
15 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES RESERVE FUND.

16 (B) THERE IS A HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
17 RESERVE FUND.

18 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO PROVIDE RESERVE FUNDING FOR
19 BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY, COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY, MORGAN STATE
20 UNIVERSITY, AND UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE THAT IS USED FOR
21 PURPOSES CONSISTENT WITH THE USES SPECIFIED UNDER § 15-126 OF THIS
22 SUBTITLE.

23 (D) THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION SHALL
24 ADMINISTER THE FUND.

25 (E) (1) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT
26 SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

27 (2) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND SEPARATELY,
28 AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

29 (F) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:

1 **(1) THE REMAINDER OF ANY FUNDS UNUSED AT THE END OF A FISCAL**
2 **YEAR THAT IS DISTRIBUTED TO THE FUND UNDER § 15–126 OF THIS SUBTITLE;**

3 **(2) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE FUND;**

4 **(3) INTEREST EARNINGS; AND**

5 **(4) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED FOR**
6 **THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.**

7 **(G) THE FUND MAY BE USED ONLY FOR THE USES SPECIFIED UNDER §**
8 **15–126 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

9 **(H) (1) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE FUND**
10 **IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.**

11 **(2) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO**
12 **THE FUND.**

13 **(I) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN ACCORDANCE**
14 **WITH THE STATE BUDGET.**

15 **(J) MONEY EXPENDED FROM THE FUND FOR THE USES SPECIFIED UNDER §**
16 **15–126 OF THIS SUBTITLE IS SUPPLEMENTAL TO AND IS NOT INTENDED TO TAKE**
17 **THE PLACE OF FUNDING THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE**
18 **USES SPECIFIED UNDER § 15–126 OF THIS SUBTITLE OR ANY OTHER FUNDS**
19 **APPROPRIATED TO PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE**
20 **BUDGET.**

21 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

22 6–226.

23 (a) (2) (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and unless
24 inconsistent with a federal law, grant agreement, or other federal requirement or with the
25 terms of a gift or settlement agreement, net interest on all State money allocated by the
26 State Treasurer under this section to special funds or accounts, and otherwise entitled to
27 receive interest earnings, as accounted for by the Comptroller, shall accrue to the General
28 Fund of the State.

29 (ii) The provisions of subparagraph (i) of this paragraph do not apply
30 to the following funds:

31 122. the Racing and Community Development Financing Fund;

32 [and]

1 123. the Racing and Community Development Facilities Fund;

2 AND

3 124. THE HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND
4 UNIVERSITIES RESERVE FUND.

5 7-317.

6 (a) There is a Cigarette Restitution Fund.

7 (b) (1) The Fund is a continuing, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to §
8 7-302 of this subtitle.

9 (2) [There] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (H) OF THIS
10 SECTION, THERE shall be credited to the Fund all revenues consisting of funds received
11 by the State from any source resulting, directly or indirectly, from any judgment against or
12 settlement with tobacco product manufacturers, tobacco research associations, or any other
13 person in the tobacco industry relating to litigation, administrative proceedings, or any
14 other claims made or prosecuted by the State to recover damages for violations of State law.

15 (3) There shall be credited to the Fund all money collected under § 24-508
16 of the Health – General Article or § 5-608 of the Labor and Employment Article.

17 (e) (1) The Fund shall be expended subject to any restrictions on its use or
18 other limitations on its allocation that are:

19 (i) expressly provided by statute;

20 (ii) required as a condition of the acceptance of funds; or

21 (iii) determined to be necessary to avoid recoupment by the federal
22 government of money paid to the Fund.

23 (2) [Disbursements] EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED UNDER
24 SUBSECTION (H) OF THIS SECTION, DISBURSEMENTS from the Fund to programs
25 funded by the State or with federal funds administered by the State shall be used solely to
26 supplement, and not to supplant, funds otherwise available for the programs under federal
27 or State law as provided in this section.

28 (H) (1) THE FUND SHALL INCLUDE A SEPARATE ACCOUNT CONSISTING
29 OF PAYMENTS RECEIVED BY THE STATE AS A RESULT OF LITIGATION BY
30 PARTICIPATING MANUFACTURERS RELATED TO THE STATE'S DILIGENT
31 ENFORCEMENT OF TITLE 16, SUBTITLE 4 OF THE BUSINESS REGULATION ARTICLE.

1 **(2) DISTRIBUTIONS FROM THE SEPARATE ACCOUNT MAY BE USED**
2 **ONLY TO SUPPLANT THE GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION TO THE HISTORICALLY**
3 **BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES REQUIRED UNDER § 15-126 OF THE**
4 **EDUCATION ARTICLE.**

5 **[(h)] (I) For each program, project or activity receiving funds appropriated**
6 **under subsection (g)(3) of this section, the Governor shall:**

7 **(1) develop appropriate statements of vision, mission, key goals, key**
8 **objectives, and key performance indicators and report these statements in a discrete part**
9 **of the State budget submission, which shall also provide data for key performance**
10 **indicators; and**

11 **(2) report annually, subject to § 2-1257 of the State Government Article,**
12 **to the General Assembly no later than November 1 on:**

13 **(i) total funds expended, by program and subdivision, in the prior**
14 **fiscal year from the Fund established under this section; and**

15 **(ii) the specific outcomes or public benefits resulting from that**
16 **expenditure.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

18 (a) (1) The University System of Maryland William E. Kirwan Center for
19 Academic Innovation, in collaboration with UMUC Ventures, shall work with the State's
20 historically black colleges and universities, Bowie State University, Coppin State
21 University, Morgan State University, and University of Maryland Eastern Shore, with the
22 goal of developing and offering online academic programs.

23 (2) The procurements and contracts for developing and offering online
24 academic programs under paragraph (1) of this subsection are not subject to the approval
25 of the Board of Public Works under § 12-112 of the Education Article.

26 (3) The Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland may use
27 the fund balance to support the development and offering of online academic programs
28 under this subsection.

29 (b) On or before December 1, 2021, each institution shall submit a report on its
30 efforts and any findings to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State
31 Government Article, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House that
32 summarizes the steps taken to comply with the requirement provided under subsection (a)
33 of this section.

34 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

1 (a) ~~The Maryland Higher Education Commission shall, in consultation with~~
 2 ~~Morgan State University, the University System of Maryland, and St. Mary's College of~~
 3 ~~Maryland, study the Commission's~~ *The Department of Legislative Services shall contract*
 4 *with a consultant to study the capacity and capability of the Maryland Higher Education*
 5 *Commission to carry out the* current policies and practices and any new policies or practices
 6 established in accordance with this Act for the purpose of:

7 (1) evaluating, streamlining, improving, and making recommendations on
 8 the Commission's policies and practices with respect to academic program review;

9 (2) enhancing the economic competitiveness of the State by ensuring the
 10 responsiveness of institutions of higher education to market demand; and

11 (3) effectively supporting the State's workforce development requirements.

12 **(b)** *The Maryland Higher Education Commission shall provide any information*
 13 *requested by the Department of Legislative Services or the consultant conducting the study*
 14 *under subsection (a) of this section in a timely manner.*

15 ~~(b)~~ **(c)** *(1)* On or before December 1, 2021, the ~~Commission~~ *Department of Legislative*
 16 *Services* shall submit ~~an interim~~ report on its findings to the Governor and, in accordance
 17 with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the President of the Senate and the Speaker
 18 of the House that summarizes the ~~results~~ *progress* of the study conducted in accordance
 19 with subsection (a) of this section.

20 **(2)** *On or before September 1, 2022, the Department of Legislative Services*
 21 *shall submit a final report on its findings to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257*
 22 *of the State Government Article, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House*
 23 *that summarizes the results of the study conducted in accordance with subsection (a) of this*
 24 *section.*

25 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

26 (a) The State's historically black colleges and universities, Bowie State
 27 University, Coppin State University, Morgan State University, and University of Maryland
 28 Eastern Shore, are encouraged to hire a consultant who would assist the institutions, as a
 29 collective, with programmatic development.

30 (b) On or before December 1, 2021, each institution shall submit a report on its
 31 efforts and any findings to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State
 32 Government Article, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House that
 33 summarizes the steps taken to comply with subsection (a) of this section.

34 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the State's historically black
 35 colleges and universities, Bowie State University, Coppin State University, Morgan State
 36 University, and University of Maryland Eastern Shore, are encouraged to use funds
 37 provided by this Act to support and implement the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.

1 SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

2 (a) Section 1 of this Act is contingent on the execution of a final settlement
3 agreement in the case of The Coalition for Equity and Excellence in Maryland Higher
4 Education v. Maryland Higher Education Commission, 06–CV–02773–CCB (D. MD) on or
5 before June 1, 2021, that:

6 (1) incorporates and does not exceed the financial and programmatic
7 commitments contained in Section 1 of this Act;

8 (2) incorporates the order described in subsection (d)(2) of this section; and

9 (3) provides for attorney’s fees and expenses in an amount not less than
10 \$14,000,000 but not more than \$25,000,000 to plaintiffs’ counsel in The Coalition for Equity
11 and Excellence in Maryland Higher Education v. Maryland Higher Education Commission,
12 06–CV–02773–CCB (D. MD).

13 (b) (1) In fiscal year 2023, the Governor shall provide an allocation for the
14 attorney’s fees and expenses in the amount specified in the final settlement agreement
15 described in subsection (a) of this section.

16 (2) The amount allocated under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be
17 provided from the funds for the historically black colleges and universities under Section 1
18 of this Act, with the amounts allocated based on each institution’s share of the total funds
19 provided under Section 1 of this Act.

20 (3) Notwithstanding § 12–501 of the State Government Article or any other
21 provision of law, the settlement agreement as provided in subsection (a) of this section,
22 including attorney’s fees and expenses provided in the settlement agreement, are not
23 subject to approval by the Board of Public Works.

24 (c) The Attorney General:

25 (1) is authorized to execute the final settlement agreement in subsection
26 (a) of this section on behalf of the State on terms the Attorney General deems:

27 (i) as final resolution of the case of The Coalition for Equity and
28 Excellence in Maryland Higher Education v. the Maryland Higher Education Commission,
29 06–CV–02773–CCB (D. MD); and

30 (ii) appropriate to carry out the purposes of Section 1 of this Act; and

31 (2) shall provide written notice of the executed settlement agreement to the
32 Department of Legislative Services, 90 State Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401.

1 (d) Section 1 of this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly,
2 shall be null and void if, on or before June 11, 2021:

3 (1) the Department of Legislative Services has not received notice of the
4 settlement agreement; and

5 (2) an order has not been issued from the United States District Court for
6 the District of Maryland or the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit that:

7 (i) reverses or vacates the District Court’s holding that the State
8 failed to eliminate traceable de jure era policy of unnecessary program duplication; or

9 (ii) holds that any policy of unnecessary program duplication
10 traceable to de jure segregation has been cured by the terms of the settlement agreement.

11 SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Section
12 6 of this Act, this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation
13 of the public health or safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by
14 three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly,
15 and shall take effect from the date it is enacted.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.