

# SENATE BILL 248

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SB 152/22 – EHE

3lr1691  
CF HB 384

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By: ~~Senator Kramer~~ Senators Kramer, Augustine, Brooks, Hester, and M. Washington

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2023  
Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
Senate action: Adopted  
Read second time: February 25, 2023

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Institutions of Higher Education – Transcripts – Prohibition on Punitive**  
3 **Measures Related to Student Debt**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting an institution of higher education from refusing to provide  
5 a current or former student with a transcript or taking other punitive measures  
6 regarding a student’s transcript request because the student owes a debt to the  
7 institution of higher education; and generally relating to the prohibition on punitive  
8 measures by institutions of higher education regarding transcript requests from  
9 students who owe debts to the institution.

10 BY adding to  
11 Article – Education  
12 Section 15–118  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2022 Replacement Volume)

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 **15–118.**

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

3                   **(2) (I) “DEBT” MEANS ANY MONEY, OBLIGATION, CLAIM, OR SUM**  
4 **DUE OR OWED BY A STUDENT TO AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

5                           **(II) “DEBT” INCLUDES:**

6                                   **1. CREDIT EXTENDED BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE**  
7 **INSTITUTION THAT A STUDENT IS OBLIGATED TO REPAY; AND**

8   **2. A NONFEDERAL LOAN OR DEBT AGREEMENT THAT IS**  
9 **ISSUED EXPRESSLY FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION EXPENSES AND THAT IS**  
10 **GUARANTEED BY:**

11   **A. AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION; OR**

12   **B. A PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL LENDER THAT IS**  
13 **AFFILIATED WITH AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

14   **(III) “DEBT” DOES NOT INCLUDE THE FEE, IF ANY, CHARGED TO**  
15 **A STUDENT FOR THE ACTUAL COSTS OF PROVIDING A TRANSCRIPT.**

16                           **(3) “STUDENT” INCLUDES CURRENT STUDENTS AND FORMER**  
17 **STUDENTS OF AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

18           **(B) AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION MAY NOT:**

19                           **(1) REFUSE TO PROVIDE A TRANSCRIPT TO A STUDENT BECAUSE THE**  
20 **STUDENT OWES A DEBT;**

21                           **(2) CONDITION THE ISSUANCE OF A TRANSCRIPT ON THE PAYMENT**  
22 **OF A DEBT;**

23                           **(3) CHARGE A HIGHER FEE FOR OBTAINING A TRANSCRIPT BECAUSE**  
24 **A STUDENT OWES A DEBT;**

25                           **(4) PROVIDE LESS FAVORABLE TREATMENT OF A TRANSCRIPT**  
26 **REQUEST BECAUSE A STUDENT OWES A DEBT; OR**

27                           **(5) USE TRANSCRIPT ISSUANCE AS A TOOL FOR DEBT COLLECTION.**

28           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
29 1, 2023.