

SENATE BILL 511

F2
HB 771/24 – APP

5lr2612
CF HB 840

By: **Senator Henson**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 16, 2025

CHAPTER _____

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.**

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

3 **(I) IS PREGNANT; OR**

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

5 **(3) (I) “PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION”**
6 **MEANS:**

7 **1. THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS OF THE**
8 **UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND;**

9 **2. MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY; AND**

10 **3. ST. MARY’S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND.**

11 **(II) “PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION” DOES**
12 **NOT INCLUDE:**

13 **1. THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR**
14 **ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES;**

15 **2. THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS;**

16 **OR**

17 **3. THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE.**

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

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

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

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

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

6 2. THE CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM;

7 3. THE MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;

8 4. THE MARYLAND CHILDREN’S HEALTH INSURANCE
9 PROGRAM; AND

10 5. ANY OTHER PROGRAMS, SCHOLARSHIPS, OR
11 SUBSIDIES FOR PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS;

12 (II) THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION ABOUT OR REFERRALS
13 TO RESOURCES REGARDING ADOPTION SERVICES;

14 (III) THE AVAILABILITY OF INSTITUTIONAL ACCOMMODATIONS
15 FOR PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS, ~~INCLUDING PRIORITY CLASS~~
16 ~~REGISTRATION AND FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING OPTIONS;~~ AND

17 (IV) A REFERRAL NETWORK OF ON-CAMPUS AND OFF-CAMPUS
18 HEALTH CARE SERVICE PROVIDERS.

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

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
23 1, 2025.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.