

# HOUSE BILL 1

F2

EMERGENCY BILL  
**ENROLLED BILL**

(11r0996)

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

Introduced by **The Speaker**

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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker.

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;  
10 specifying how certain funds shall be allocated; providing for the allowable uses of  
11 certain funds; providing that certain funds be in addition to certain base funds  
12 appropriated to certain institutions; prohibiting certain funds from being included  
13 in certain calculations of State funding for certain institutions of higher education  
14 under certain provisions of law; requiring certain historically black colleges and

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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.

*Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.*



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

39 BY adding to

40 Article – Education

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

42 Annotated Code of Maryland

43 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

44 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

45 Article – State Finance and Procurement

1 Section 6–226(a)(2)(i) *and 7–317(a)*  
2 Annotated Code of Maryland  
3 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

9 BY adding to  
10 Article – State Finance and Procurement  
11 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)124. *and 7–317(h)*  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Education**

17 **10–214.**

18 **THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:**

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

22 **(2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS CAREFULLY REVIEWED THE**  
23 **MEMORANDUM OPINIONS AND ORDERS OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
24 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND, ISSUED OCTOBER 7, 2013, AND NOVEMBER 8,**  
25 **2017, IN THE ACTION, THE COALITION FOR EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE IN**  
26 **MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION, ET AL. V. MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION**  
27 **COMMISSION, ET AL., 06–CV–02773–CCB;**

28 **(3) THE DISTRICT COURT FOUND THAT THE STATE FAILED TO**  
29 **ELIMINATE A TRACEABLE DE JURE ERA POLICY OF UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION OF**  
30 **PROGRAMS AT HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN THE STATE**  
31 **THAT HAS EXACERBATED THE RACIAL IDENTIFIABILITY OF MARYLAND’S**  
32 **HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES;**

33 **(4) MARYLAND’S HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND**  
34 **UNIVERSITIES, WHICH ARE BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY, COPPIN STATE**  
35 **UNIVERSITY, MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, AND UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND**

1 EASTERN SHORE, SHOULD RECEIVE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT TO REMEDY THE  
2 FINDINGS OF THE DISTRICT COURT;

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

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

11 11-206.3.

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

14 (B) (1) THE UNIT ESTABLISHED IN THIS SECTION SHALL HAVE AT LEAST  
15 10 STAFF MEMBERS WHO ARE EMPLOYEES OF THE COMMISSION.

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

18 (C) THE UNIT ESTABLISHED IN THIS SECTION SHALL ASSIST THE  
19 COMMISSION IN REVIEWING AND EVALUATING PROPOSALS FOR NEW PROGRAMS  
20 AND SUBSTANTIAL MODIFICATIONS OF EXISTING PROGRAMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
21 §§ 11-206 AND 11-206.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

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

25 15-126.

26 (A) ~~FOR~~ SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION, FOR FISCAL YEAR  
27 2023, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL A GENERAL  
28 FUND APPROPRIATION OF AT LEAST:

29 (1) \$16,790,700 FOR BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY;

30 (2) \$9,000,000 FOR COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY;

31 (3) \$24,003,200 FOR MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY; AND

1           (4)    **\$9,693,600 FOR UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE.**

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

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

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

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

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

16                           2.    **\$57,700,000.**

17           **(3)   (1)   ~~FOR~~ SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION, FOR**  
18 **FISCAL YEAR 2032, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL**  
19 **A GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION EQUAL TO THE DIFFERENCE OF:**

20                           1.    **\$577,000,000; MINUS**

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

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

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

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

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

5 (c) FUNDS PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION:

6 (1) SHALL BE SUPPLEMENTAL TO, AND MAY NOT SUPPLANT, FUNDS  
 7 APPROPRIATED TO PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE  
 8 BUDGET;

9 (2) MAY BE USED FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES, AS DETERMINED  
 10 BY THE UNIVERSITY RECEIVING THE FUNDS:

11 (i) SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID SUPPORT SERVICES;

12 (ii) FACULTY RECRUITMENT AND DEVELOPMENT;

13 (iii) EXPANDING AND IMPROVING EXISTING ACADEMIC  
 14 PROGRAMS, INCLUDING ONLINE PROGRAMS;

15 (iv) DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW ACADEMIC  
 16 PROGRAMS, INCLUDING ONLINE PROGRAMS;

17 (v) ACADEMIC SUPPORT; AND

18 (vi) MARKETING; AND

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

21 (D) IF THE SPECIAL ACCOUNT IN THE CIGARETTE RESTITUTION FUND  
 22 ESTABLISHED UNDER § 7-317 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE  
 23 HAS A BALANCE, THE GOVERNOR SHALL USE THE BALANCE TO SUPPLANT THE  
 24 GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION TO THE HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND  
 25 UNIVERSITIES REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION.

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

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

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

4                   **(I) DEVELOPMENT COSTS;**

5                   **(II) STARTUP COSTS; AND**

6                   **(III) ONGOING COSTS TO MAINTAIN THE PROGRAM.**

7 **15-127.**

8           **(A) IN THIS SECTION, "FUND" MEANS THE HISTORICALLY BLACK**  
9 **COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES RESERVE FUND.**

10           **(B) THERE IS A HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**  
11 **RESERVE FUND.**

12           **(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO PROVIDE RESERVE FUNDING FOR**  
13 **BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY, COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY, MORGAN STATE**  
14 **UNIVERSITY, AND UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE THAT IS USED FOR**  
15 **PURPOSES CONSISTENT WITH THE USES SPECIFIED UNDER § 15-126 OF THIS**  
16 **SUBTITLE.**

17           **(D) THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION SHALL**  
18 **ADMINISTER THE FUND.**

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

21                   **(2) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND SEPARATELY,**  
22 **AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.**

23           **(F) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:**

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

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

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

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

3           **(G) THE FUND MAY BE USED ONLY FOR THE USES SPECIFIED UNDER §**  
 4 **15-126 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

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

7           **(2) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO**  
 8 **THE FUND.**

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

11           **(J) MONEY EXPENDED FROM THE FUND FOR THE USES SPECIFIED UNDER §**  
 12 **15-126 OF THIS SUBTITLE IS SUPPLEMENTAL TO AND IS NOT INTENDED TO TAKE**  
 13 **THE PLACE OF FUNDING THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE**  
 14 **USES SPECIFIED UNDER § 15-126 OF THIS SUBTITLE OR ANY OTHER FUNDS**  
 15 **APPROPRIATED TO PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE**  
 16 **BUDGET.**

17                                   **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

18 6-226.

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

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

27                                   122. the Racing and Community Development Financing Fund;

28 [and]

29                                   123. the Racing and Community Development Facilities Fund;

30 AND

31                                   124. THE HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND  
 32 UNIVERSITIES RESERVE FUND.



1 7-317.

2 (a) There is a Cigarette Restitution Fund.

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

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

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

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

15 (i) expressly provided by statute;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

5           (2) report annually, subject to § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, to  
6 the General Assembly no later than November 1 on:

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

9                   (ii) the specific outcomes or public benefits resulting from that  
10 expenditure.

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

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

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

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

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

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

29           (a) ~~The Maryland Higher Education Commission shall, in consultation with~~  
30 ~~Morgan State University, the University System of Maryland, and St. Mary's College of~~  
31 ~~Maryland, study the Commission's~~ The Department of Legislative Services shall contract  
32 with a consultant to study the capacity and capability of the Maryland Higher Education  
33 Commission to carry out the current policies and practices and any new policies or practices  
34 established in accordance with this Act for the purpose of:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4 (3) provides for attorney's fees and expenses in an amount not less than  
5 \$14,000,000 but not more than \$25,000,000 to plaintiffs' counsel in *The Coalition for Equity  
6 and Excellence in Maryland Higher Education v. Maryland Higher Education Commission,*  
7 *06-CV-02773-CCB (D. MD).*

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

11 (2) The amount allocated under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be  
12 provided from the funds for the historically black colleges and universities under Section 1  
13 of this Act, with the amounts allocated based on each institution's share of the total funds  
14 provided under Section 1 of this Act.

15 (3) Notwithstanding § 12-501 of the State Government Article or any other  
16 provision of law, the settlement agreement as provided in subsection (a) of this section,  
17 including attorney's fees and expenses provided in the settlement agreement, are not  
18 subject to approval by the Board of Public Works.

19 (c) The Attorney General:

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

22 (i) as final resolution of the case of *The Coalition for Equity and  
23 Excellence in Maryland Higher Education v. the Maryland Higher Education Commission,*  
24 *06-CV-02773-CCB (D. MD);* and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

10

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.