

HOUSE BILL 1129

F2

3lr2073

By: **Delegate Rosenberg**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2023

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Higher Education Outreach and College Access Program – Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill a certain
4 appropriation to the Maryland Higher Education Outreach and College Access
5 Program; and generally relating to student financial assistance programs.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
7 Article – Education
8 Section 11–1101 through 11–1105
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2022 Replacement Volume)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Education
13 Section 11–1107
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2022 Replacement Volume)

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

18 **Article – Education**

19 11–1101.

20 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

21 (b) “Nonprofit organization” means an organization that is exempt or eligible for
22 exemption from taxation under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (c) "Program" means the Maryland Higher Education Outreach and College
2 Access Program.

3 11-1102.

4 There is a Maryland Higher Education Outreach and College Access Program.

5 11-1103.

6 The purposes of the Program are to:

7 (1) Encourage low-income Maryland high school students to attend and
8 complete college;

9 (2) Connect potential college and university students with nonprofit
10 organizations that have a history of successful higher education outcomes for targeted
11 youth;

12 (3) Create an equal matching fund for nonprofit organizations to access in
13 order to increase college outreach services to low-income students;

14 (4) Provide funding for nonprofit organizations that are already
15 established in communities to provide targeted outreach to encourage low-income students
16 to enroll in college; and

17 (5) Increase the number of low-income students attending and succeeding
18 in college.

19 11-1104.

20 (a) The Commission shall administer the Program.

21 (b) To carry out the purposes of the Program, the Commission shall:

22 (1) Establish a grant program to be published on the Commission's website
23 through which nonprofit organizations may learn about eligibility, application, and
24 compliance requirements and apply for funding as provided under this subtitle;

25 (2) Develop application requirements and review and approve applications;

26 (3) Develop a process for verifying that matching funds are available; and

27 (4) Allocate funding to approved nonprofit organizations on a competitive
28 basis.

29 11-1105.

1 (a) To be eligible for participation in the Program, a nonprofit organization shall:

2 (1) Be located in the State;

3 (2) Have a contract or memorandum of understanding with a local school
4 system or an institution of higher education or must establish one if one does not exist; and

5 (3) Demonstrate an equal match for funds requested.

6 (b) A nonprofit organization that receives funding through the Program shall:

7 (1) Submit data on outreach programs;

8 (2) Track student progress through the higher education system; and

9 (3) Submit annual reports to the Commission on or before October 1
10 following the fiscal year in which funds were received.

11 11-1107.

12 (a) For fiscal year 2023, the Governor shall include in the annual budget bill an
13 appropriation of \$200,000 for the Program.

14 (b) For fiscal year 2024 [and each fiscal year thereafter], the Governor shall
15 include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$500,000 for the Program.

16 **(C) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE**
17 **GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF**
18 **\$2,000,000 FOR THE PROGRAM.**

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
20 1, 2023.