SENATE BILL 522

Q3, F5 8B 646/16 - B&T

By: Senators King, DeGrange, Feldman, Ferguson, Guzzone, Manno, Mathias, Peters, Rosapepe, and Smith

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2017

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2

Income Tax Credit – Eligible Employers – Eligible Internships

- 3 FOR the purpose of allowing certain eligible employers a credit, up to a certain amount, 4 against the State income tax for employing certain eligible interns subject to certain 5 limitations; requiring an eligible employer to enter into a certain agreement with a 6 certain eligible institution of higher education; requiring a certain eligible employer 7 to submit a certain application to the Department of Labor, Licensing, and 8 Regulation at a certain time; requiring the Department to approve certain 9 applications on a first-come, first-served basis and within a certain time period; 10 limiting the amount of tax credit certificates that may be issued in any taxable year 11 to a certain amount; providing for the carryforward of the credit; requiring the 12 Department to adopt certain regulations; defining certain terms; providing for the 13 application of this Act; and generally relating to a tax credit for certain internships.
- 14 BY adding to
- 15 Article Tax General
- 16 Section 10–741
- 17 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 18 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)
- 19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 20 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 21 Article Tax General
- 22 **10–741.**
- 23 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
- 24 INDICATED.

$\frac{1}{2}$	(2) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING, AND REGULATION.
3	(3) "ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER" MEANS A BUSINESS ENTITY:
4	(I) LOCATED IN THE STATE; AND
5 6	(II) THAT WOULD NOT HAVE HIRED AN ELIGIBLE INTERN WITHOUT THE TAX CREDIT PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION.
7 8	(4) "ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION" MEANS A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE NONPROFIT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE.
9	(5) "ELIGIBLE INTERN" MEANS A STUDENT WHO:
0	(I) IS ENROLLED IN AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION;
$\frac{1}{2}$	(II) HAS COMPLETED AT LEAST 50% OF THE CREDITS REQUIRED TO EARN AN ASSOCIATE, BACHELOR, OR GRADUATE DEGREE;
13 14	(III) WORKS AT LEAST 10 HOURS PER WEEK FOR A MINIMUM OF 8 WEEKS FOR AN ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER;
15	(IV) IS PAID AT LEAST 100% OF THE FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE;
16 17	(V) HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY WORKED FOR THE ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER IN THE SAME JOB OR A SIMILAR JOB;
18	(VI) IS NOT A PERMANENT EMPLOYEE OF THE ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER;
20 21	(VII) DOES NOT REPLACE AN EXISTING EMPLOYEE OF THE ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER; AND
22 23	(VIII) HAS NOT BEEN PREVIOUSLY CLAIMED BY ANY ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER IN ANY TAXABLE YEAR FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE TAX CREDIT UNDER
24	THIS SECTION.

25 (B) (1) SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THIS SECTION, FOR THE 26 TAXABLE YEAR IN WHICH AN ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER EMPLOYS AN ELIGIBLE INTERN, 27 THE ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER MAY CLAIM A CREDIT AGAINST THE STATE INCOME TAX IN 28 AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT OF THE TAX CREDIT STATED IN THE CREDIT

- 1 CERTIFICATE ISSUED TO AN ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER AS PROVIDED UNDER THIS 2 SECTION.
- 3 (2) THE AMOUNT OF THE TAX CREDIT ALLOWED UNDER THIS SECTION 4 MAY NOT EXCEED:
- 5 (I) \$1,000 FOR EACH ELIGIBLE INTERN; OR
- 6 (II) 10% OF THE WAGES PAID TO EACH ELIGIBLE INTERN.
- 7 (3) AN ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER MAY NOT CLAIM A CREDIT FOR MORE
- 8 THAN FIVE ELIGIBLE INTERNS EMPLOYED IN THE TAXABLE YEAR FOR WHICH THE
- 9 ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER CLAIMS THE CREDIT.
- 10 (C) TO CLAIM THE CREDIT ALLOWED UNDER THIS SECTION, AN ELIGIBLE
- 11 EMPLOYER MUST ENTER INTO A WRITTEN AGREEMENT WITH AN ELIGIBLE
- 12 INSTITUTION SPECIFYING THAT THE ELIGIBLE INTERN:
- 13 (1) WILL BE SUPERVISED AND EVALUATED BY THE ELIGIBLE
- 14 EMPLOYER;
- 15 (2) IS NOT REQUIRED TO PERFORM THE INTERNSHIP FOR A SPECIFIC
- 16 DEGREE PROGRAM THAT REQUIRES PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE, INCLUDING STUDENT
- 17 TEACHING OR STUDENT NURSING; AND
- 18 (3) (I) WILL EARN ACADEMIC CREDIT FOR COMPLETING THE
- 19 INTERNSHIP; OR
- 20 (II) IF NO ACADEMIC CREDIT WILL BE EARNED, WILL WORK IN
- 21 AN INTERNSHIP RELATED TO THE ELIGIBLE INTERN'S FIELD OF STUDY AT THE
- 22 ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.
- 23 (D) (1) AT LEAST 30 DAYS PRIOR TO EMPLOYING AN ELIGIBLE INTERN
- 24 FOR WHICH AN ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR A TAX CREDIT UNDER
- 25 THIS SECTION, THE ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER SHALL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE
- 26 **DEPARTMENT.**
- 27 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:
- 28 (I) APPROVE ALL APPLICATIONS THAT QUALIFY FOR CREDITS
- 29 UNDER THIS SECTION ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS; AND

- 1 (II) WITHIN 30 DAYS OF RECEIPT OF AN APPLICATION, CERTIFY 2 THE AMOUNT OF ANY APPROVED TAX CREDITS TO AN ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER.
- 3 (3) FOR ANY TAXABLE YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT ISSUE 4 MORE THAN \$500,000 IN TAX CREDIT CERTIFICATES.
- 5 (E) IF THE CREDIT ALLOWED UNDER THIS SECTION IN ANY TAXABLE YEAR
 6 EXCEEDS THE STATE INCOME TAX FOR THAT TAXABLE YEAR, AN INDIVIDUAL OR A
 7 CORPORATION MAY APPLY THE EXCESS AS A CREDIT AGAINST THE STATE INCOME
 8 TAX FOR SUCCEEDING TAXABLE YEARS UNTIL THE EARLIER OF:
- 9 (1) THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE EXCESS IS USED; OR
- 10 (2) THE EXPIRATION OF THE 7TH TAXABLE YEAR AFTER THE TAXABLE 11 YEAR IN WHICH THE ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER EMPLOYED THE ELIGIBLE INTERN.
- 12 **(F)** THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION AND TO SPECIFY CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR APPLICATION FOR AND APPROVAL OF TAX CREDIT CERTIFICATES FOR THE TAX CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2017, and shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2016.