

HOUSE BILL 416

E5

3lr0799

By: **Delegate Amprey**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2023

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Resources and Education for All Prisons (REAP) Act**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
4 to assist inmates in accessing certain federal education grants; requiring the
5 Maryland Department of Labor to set certain goals relating to inmates in education
6 programs and establish certain tracking systems relating to inmates in education
7 programs; requiring the State Department of Education and the Department of
8 Human Services to assist the Maryland Department of Labor in establishing certain
9 tracking systems; and generally relating to resources and education for inmates.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Correctional Services
12 Section 2–701 and 2–702 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 7. Inmate Access to
13 Federal Pell Grants”
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

16 BY adding to

17 Article – Labor and Employment
18 Section 11–903.1
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

23 **Article – Correctional Services**

24 **SUBTITLE 7. INMATE ACCESS TO FEDERAL PELL GRANTS.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



2-701.

(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ASSIST INMATES IN ACCESSING FEDERAL PELL GRANTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.

(B) IN ORDER TO ASSIST INMATES IN ACCESSING FEDERAL PELL GRANTS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSULT WITH INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, INCLUDING:

(1) THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE;

(2) MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY;

(3) BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY;

(4) THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS;

(5) ANNE ARUNDEL COMMUNITY COLLEGE;

(6) HAGERSTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE;

(7) WOR-WIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE; AND

(8) GOUCHER COLLEGE.

2-702.

THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SUBTITLE.

Article – Labor and Employment**11-903.1.**

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “INMATE” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 1-101 OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ARTICLE.

(B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(1) SET GOALS FOR THE NUMBER OF INMATES IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS;

1 **(2) ESTABLISH A TRACKING SYSTEM FOR THE NUMBER OF INMATES**
2 **IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS; AND**

3 **(3) ESTABLISH A TRACKING SYSTEM FOR THE PROGRESS OF INMATES**
4 **IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING THE NUMBER OF COLLEGE CREDITS THAT**
5 **EACH INMATE EARNS IN AN APPROVED COLLEGE PROGRAM.**

6 **(C) THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF**
7 **HUMAN SERVICES SHALL ASSIST THE DEPARTMENT IN CREATING THE TRACKING**
8 **SYSTEMS UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.**

9 **(D) THE GOVERNOR SHALL PROVIDE FUNDING ANNUALLY IN THE BUDGET**
10 **BILL FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO USE FOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING**
11 **MARKETING FOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS TO INMATES AND THE TRACKING SYSTEMS**
12 **FOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS.**

13 **(E) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS**
14 **SECTION.**

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
16 October 1, 2023.