

# SENATE BILL 620

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4lr3127  
CF HB 92

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By: **Senator Carter**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2024

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment and Finance

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 2, 2024

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

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 incarcerated individuals in accessing certain federal education grants;  
5 requiring the ~~Maryland Department of Labor~~ to set certain goals relating to  
6 incarcerated individuals in certain education programs, establish certain tracking  
7 systems relating to incarcerated individuals in certain education programs, and  
8 forward certain data to the Maryland Higher Education Commission; ~~authorizing~~  
9 requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to assist the ~~Maryland~~  
10 Department of ~~Labor~~ in establishing certain tracking systems; and generally relating  
11 to resources and education for incarcerated individuals.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Correctional Services

14 Section 2–701 and 2–702 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 7. ~~Incarcerated~~  
15 ~~Individual Access to~~ Federal Pell Grants Access and Postsecondary Education  
16 Program Tracking Systems”

17 Annotated Code of Maryland

18 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

19 ~~BY adding to~~

20 ~~Article – Labor and Employment~~

21 ~~Section 11–903.1~~

22 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~

23 ~~(2016 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)~~

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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.



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

3 **Article – Correctional Services**

4 **SUBTITLE 7. ~~INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL ACCESS TO~~ FEDERAL PELL GRANTS**  
5 **ACCESS AND POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAM TRACKING SYSTEMS.**

6 **2-701.**

7 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ASSIST INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS IN  
8 ACCESSING FEDERAL PELL GRANTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.

9 (B) IN ORDER TO ASSIST INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS IN ACCESSING  
10 FEDERAL PELL GRANTS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSULT WITH INSTITUTIONS  
11 OF HIGHER EDUCATION, INCLUDING:

12 (1) ~~THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE~~ ALL UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF  
13 MARYLAND INSTITUTIONS;

14 (2) MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY;

15 (3) ~~BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY;~~

16 (4) ~~THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS;~~

17 (5) ANNE ARUNDEL COMMUNITY COLLEGE;

18 (6) (4) HAGERSTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE;

19 (7) (5) WOR-WIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE; AND

20 (8) (6) GOUCHER COLLEGE.

21 **2-702.**

22 ~~THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS~~  
23 ~~SUBTITLE.~~

24 ~~Article – Labor and Employment~~

25 ~~11-903.1.~~

1 ~~(A) IN THIS SECTION, "INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL" HAS THE MEANING~~  
2 ~~STATED IN § 1-101 OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ARTICLE.~~

3 ~~(B) (A)~~ THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY WITH RESPECT TO POSTSECONDARY  
4 EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN A CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION IN THE DIVISION OF  
5 CORRECTION IN THE DEPARTMENT ~~OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL~~  
6 ~~SERVICES.~~

7 ~~(C) (B)~~ THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

8 (1) SET GOALS FOR THE NUMBER OF INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS IN  
9 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS;

10 (2) ESTABLISH A TRACKING SYSTEM FOR THE NUMBER OF  
11 INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS IN POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS;

12 (3) ESTABLISH A TRACKING SYSTEM FOR THE PROGRESS OF  
13 INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS IN POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS,  
14 INCLUDING THE NUMBER OF COLLEGE CREDITS THAT EACH INCARCERATED  
15 INDIVIDUAL EARNS IN AN APPROVED COLLEGE PROGRAM; AND

16 (4) FORWARD, AT AN AGREED-ON INTERVAL, THE TRACKING DATA  
17 FOR THE NUMBER OF COLLEGE CREDITS THAT EACH INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL  
18 EARNS IN AN APPROVED COLLEGE PROGRAM TO THE MARYLAND HIGHER  
19 EDUCATION COMMISSION.

20 ~~(D) (C)~~ THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION ~~MAY~~ SHALL  
21 ASSIST THE DEPARTMENT IN CREATING THE TRACKING SYSTEMS UNDER  
22 SUBSECTION ~~(C) (B)~~ OF THIS SECTION.

23 ~~(E) (D)~~ FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE  
24 ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION IN AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT FOR THE  
25 DEPARTMENT TO USE FOR MARKETING FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION  
26 PROGRAMS TO INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS AND FOR THE TRACKING SYSTEMS FOR  
27 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

28 ~~(F) (E)~~ THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT  
29 THIS SECTION.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
31 1, 2024.