

general fund allocations through the FY 1996 budget. I will continue to be as supportive of the community college system as I was in my FY 1996 budget.

Additionally, I have signed legislation (House Bill 1054) that would provide \$1.2 million for grants to community colleges that provide instruction and services for students enrolled in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programs.

In the coming fiscal year, I plan to take a systematic look at all of the local funding formulas to determine which need to be restructured to meet current programmatic needs and to incorporate more contemporary fiscal approaches. I feel that enactment of this legislation would provide a piecemeal approach to that endeavor rather than a more comprehensive approach to addressing local funding needs.

For these reasons, I have decided to veto House Bill 897.

Sincerely,  
Parris N. Glendening  
Governor

**House Bill No. 897**

AN ACT concerning

**Education – Community Colleges – Funding**

FOR the purpose of requiring that, for certain funds provided by the State to boards of community colleges for certain years, the amount distributed to a certain board ~~for a fiscal year~~ may not be less than an amount equal to the State share distributed to that board in the previous fiscal year; ~~providing for the termination of this Act~~; and generally relating to funding of community colleges.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Education

Section 16-403(b)(1)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1992 Replacement Volume and 1994 Supplement)

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

**Article – Education**

16-403.

(b) (1) (I) The total State operating fund per full-time equivalent student to the community colleges for each fiscal year as requested by the Governor shall be not less than an amount equal to the total State operating fund per full-time equivalent student in the previous fiscal year.