

vetoed Senate Bill 568 – Higher Education – Educational Excellence Awards – Funding.

This bill requires at least \$2 million appropriated annually for specified student financial assistance programs to be allocated to institutions of higher education in the State to fund Educational Excellence Awards.

House Bill 774, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 568.

Sincerely,
Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Senate Bill No. 568

AN ACT concerning

Higher Education – Educational Excellence Awards – Funding

FOR the purpose of requiring ~~a minimum at least a certain~~ amount of funding appropriated annually for ~~Educational Assistance Grants~~ *certain student financial assistance programs* to be allocated to institutions of higher education in the State to fund Educational Excellence Awards; and generally relating to funding for Educational Excellence Awards.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Education

Section 18–307

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

18–307.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the Office shall compile and certify lists for the entire State that rank applicants by financial need.

(b) All funds for annual initial grants shall be awarded from the statewide list on the basis of greatest financial need.

(c) On or before May 1 of each year, the Office shall send each Senator and each Delegate a list of individuals in each legislative district to whom Educational Excellence Awards are awarded.

(d) (1) (I) ~~‡~~ If State funds are available for this purpose, institutions ~~‡~~ INSTITUTIONS of higher education in the State may provide Educational Excellence