

WHEREAS, It is the intent of the Administration and General Assembly to ensure that St. Mary's College of Maryland maintains a commitment to the enrollment of minority students; and

WHEREAS, Achieving and maintaining this mission requires a dedication to educational excellence, dynamic strategic planning, and sound fiscal underpinning; and

WHEREAS, A greatly reduced or unstable level of financial support for the College could threaten this mission; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Administration and General Assembly to ensure that St. Mary's College of Maryland be managed in a manner consistent with good business practices, in the best interests of the citizens of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, Granting St. Mary's College of Maryland greater authority over its personnel, procurement, and budget would assist the College in meeting its educational mission and allow for more efficient and effective management of the College's operation; and

WHEREAS, This additional authority would also serve to decrease the State's financial commitment to the College over time, ~~thereby assisting the State in resolving the fiscal crisis that it faces~~; now, therefore,

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

Article - Education

14-201.

There is a St. Mary's College of Maryland, A PUBLIC HONORS COLLEGE, located in St. Mary's County.

14-202.

(a) The government of St. Mary's College of Maryland is vested in the Board of Trustees of St. Mary's College of Maryland.

(b) (1) The Board of Trustees consists of 17 members. Of the 17 members:

(i) 16 members shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate; and

(ii) 1 member shall be the Chairman of the Historic St. Mary's City Commission, or the Chairman's designee.

(2) One member shall be a student in good academic standing at the College.

(c) (1) Except for the Chairman of the Historic St. Mary's City Commission and the student member, each member serves for a term of 6 years and until a successor is appointed and qualifies. These terms are staggered as required by the terms of the members serving on July 1, 1978.