

CHAPTER 567

(House Bill 249)

AN ACT concerning

Higher Education – Maryland Science and Technology Scholarships

FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Science and Technology Scholarship Program for certain students; providing for the awarding of Maryland Science and Technology Scholarships; establishing the requirements for receiving a Maryland Science and Technology Scholarship; requiring the State Scholarship Administration to send each Senator and Delegate certain information; providing for the funding of the Maryland Science and Technology Scholarships; providing for the effective date of this Act; and generally relating to the Maryland Science and Technology Scholarships.

BY adding to

Article – Education

Section 18-2001 through ~~18-2008~~ 18-2007, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 20. Maryland Science and Technology Scholarships”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1997 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, The Department of Business and Economic Development and key members of the business community report that Maryland’s businesses are experiencing a shortage, or anticipate a shortage, of qualified applicants in the fields of computer science, engineering, and technology; and

WHEREAS, A Maryland Higher Education Commission survey of over 2,500 employers in all regions of the State indicates that additional workers are needed in these critical areas; and

WHEREAS, These fields of science and technology are among the highest growth industries for the 21st Century; and

WHEREAS, An educated, well trained and highly skilled workforce is crucial to economic development and job growth in this State as higher education and business needs are closely linked; and

WHEREAS, It is an important role for the State to ensure that institutions of higher education are producing graduates with skills needed by business; and

WHEREAS, This Science and Technology Scholarship Program intends to help meet the State’s economic development needs by rewarding students who work hard in school, demonstrate their ability, and agree to use their training and skills to become valued members of Maryland’s workforce; now, therefore,