

HOUSE BILL 419

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0lr1680

By: **Delegate Luedtke**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2020

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education – Report on Collection Practices for Unpaid Fees and**
3 **Services**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring certain institutions of higher education to collect certain data
5 on current students and certain graduate students related to unpaid fees or services;
6 requiring certain institutions of higher education to annually provide certain data to
7 the Maryland Higher Education Commission; requiring the Commission to make a
8 certain report to the General Assembly on or before certain dates; providing for the
9 termination of this Act; and generally relating to collection practices for unpaid fees
10 and services for institutions of higher education.

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
12 That:

13 (a) (1) This section applies to public, private, and for-profit institutions of
14 higher education.

15 (2) Each institution of higher education shall collect data on:

16 (i) the number of current students and the number of graduates
17 from the prior 5 years who owe the institution for unpaid fees and services;

18 (ii) the average amount of unpaid fees and services of a student who
19 owes unpaid fees and services;

20 (iii) the categories for which a student may owe the institution
21 unpaid fees and services, including tuition and fees, room and board, dining and meal plan
22 costs, library fees, and parking citations;

23 (iv) the most common categories for which a student may owe the
24 institution unpaid fees and services;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(v) the number of academic transcripts, grade reports, diplomas, and any other information related to coursework or educational degrees withheld by an institution due to a student's unpaid fees and services;

(vi) the threshold amount that triggers the withholding of information under item (v) of this subsection; and

(vii) any payment plans and practices offered by the institution to assist students in paying unpaid fees and services.

(3) Each institution of higher education annually shall submit the data collected under this section to the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

(b) On or before December 1, 2020, and each December 1 through 2022, the Maryland Higher Education Commission shall report, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly on the data collected under this section.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2020. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of June 30, 2023, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.