

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2020 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-2-2020
 Proposed by Council Members Turner, Hawkins, Davis, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Ivey, Streeter and Dernoga
 Introduced by Council Members Turner, Hawkins, Davis, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Ivey, Streeter and Dernoga
 Co-Sponsors _____
 Date of Introduction February 4, 2020

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION Concerning

2 Maryland’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities Settlement

3 For the purpose of supporting the settlement offer made by the Historically Black Colleges and
4 Universities Coalition (“HBCU Coalition”) to resolve the lawsuit against the State of Maryland;
5 and urging Governor Hogan and the members of the Maryland General Assembly to settle the
6 HBCU Coalition lawsuit in accordance with the Court ruling and the offer made by the HBCU
7 Coalition.

8 WHEREAS, the State of Maryland (hereinafter “State”) has four Historically Black
9 Colleges and Universities (hereinafter “HBCUs”), including Bowie State University located in
10 Bowie in Prince George’s County, Maryland and the others are located within the greater
11 Baltimore metropolitan region and on the Eastern Shore of Maryland; and

12 WHEREAS, HBCUs are an essential part of the Maryland higher education system and
13 they provide unique educational opportunities for large segments of the population of the State
14 and Prince George’s County; and

15 WHEREAS, HBCUs serve as economic engines in their communities by employing
16 Maryland residents; making countless contributions to the State’s economy through the revenue
17 that they generate; supporting the State’s economic growth through the expenditures made by
18 their students, faculty, staff and alumni; and

19 WHEREAS, the HBCUs are significant contributors to the social and cultural life of Prince
20 George’s County and the greater Baltimore metropolitan region and the Eastern Shore of
21 Maryland through their unique programs and curricula, athletic programs, and other special
22 events; and

1 WHEREAS, the United States District Court for the District of Maryland (hereinafter
2 “District Court”) opined in 2013 that the State had adversely impacted the HBCUs as a result of
3 its unconstitutional and discriminatory practice of providing funding for the unnecessary
4 duplication of academic programs in State supported, non-HBCU colleges and universities; and

5 WHEREAS, the District Court ordered in 2017 that the State of Maryland remedy the
6 violations by establishing a set of unique and popular programs with appropriate funding for
7 scholarships, marketing and recruitment at each of the State’s HBCUs; and

8 WHEREAS, after several attempts at mediation, the HBCU Coalition recently offered to
9 settle the case for \$577 million over a period of 10 years; and

10 WHEREAS, the Prince George’s County Council affirms that the HBCUs success is
11 important to the vitality of this county and the State; and

12 WHEREAS, the Prince George’s County Council further affirm that we stand with alumni,
13 students, faculty, staff and the community in support of Maryland’s HBCUs.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
15 County, Maryland, that the County Council supports the offer made by the Historically Black
16 Colleges and Universities Coalition regarding the lawsuit against the State of Maryland and
17 urges Governor Hogan and the Maryland General Assembly to reach a settlement in accordance
18 with the District Court’s rulings.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Governor of
20 Maryland, the Attorney General of Maryland, President of the Senate, President Emeritus of the
21 Senate, Speaker of the House, Chair of the Legislative Black Caucus, the President of Bowie
22 State University, the President of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, the President of
23 Coppin State University; the President of Morgan State University and the honorable members
24 of the Prince George’s County Senate and House Delegations.

Adopted this 18th day of February, 2020.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Todd M. Turner
Council Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council