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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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**Senate Bill 31**  
**Anne Arundel County—Board of Community College Trustees**

Good Afternoon Chairman Pinsky and Members of the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee;

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to present **Senate Bill 31 – Anne Arundel County – Board of Community College Trustees**. **SB 31** creates term limits for the Community College Trustees and requires all Board members to be residents of Anne Arundel County. Each Trustee may serve three, four year terms for a total of twelve years. With the amendment requested by Senator Simonaire, the bill will be prospective. As each trustee completes their current term, they will be eligible to serve three more four year terms, if they are reappointed.

According to “Board Source” term limits are an effective means of:

- keeping a board full of involved active members,
- creates new enthusiasm and
- doesn’t burn out dedicated supporters.

Term limits bring more diversity to a board and re-energizes other board members, and avoids the risk of an organization being seen as an insiders club. The IRS and other organizations that evaluate board performance favor term limits because they believe that static board membership leads to unhealthy attitudes which can cause boards to govern out of self-interest rather than community interest.

**Senate Bill 31** allows the appointments to remain staggered providing a built-in balance of continuity and turn over. Term limits will raise awareness and improve group dynamics, enlarging the circle of influence and increasing the number of committed supporters.

There is a great deal written about the positive effect of instituting term limits on boards. please give **SB 31** a favorable vote.