

**Senate Bill 0254**  
**Tracy Harris**  
**Unfavorable Report**  
**February 9, 2022**

I am writing to oppose Senate Bill 0254—College of Southern Maryland—Vice President of Equity and Inclusions.

Issues of diversity and inclusion are important and pertinent issues on college campuses around the country. CSM has been a leading voice on issues of Diversity and Inclusion for nearly a decade. College staff have successfully work with various constituency groups including students, faculty, staff, and the community to grasp a better understanding of what it means to work and live in an inclusive society. While the intent of this bill may be to add another voice to this dialogue, it does not make sense to mandate such a hire. CSM has a solid track record of serving the citizens of southern Maryland with educational and personal resources to understand the tenets of diversity and inclusion. Funding such a mandate overwhelming at a time when colleges are re-evaluating college resources and how to streamline activities that are results oriented. Two major CSM initiative which focus on diversity and inclusion are the Men of Excellence program (specifically designed to improve the enrollment, retention, and completion rates for men of color), and the work with the Achieving the Dream network which has a core focus on student equity and success. There are other initiatives but just too many to list here. The point is that CSM is open and will continue to serve our diverse community and will do so without a required mandate or bill.

Thus, I would like to recommend the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee to give SB 0254 an unfavorable report.

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