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TESTIMONY ON HB#/0569- POSITION: FAVORABLE

Higher Education - Credit Eligibility and Transfer of Credits - English as a Second Language Courses (Credit for All Language Learning (CALL) Act)

TO: Chair Barnes, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the Appropriations Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#/0569, Higher Education - Credit Eligibility and Transfer of Credits - English as a Second Language Courses (Credit for All Language Learning (CALL) Act)

As a senior student at Frederick Community College currently having earned three degrees from FCC over the last eight years I have been in classes where the diversity of the native languages and cultures has added to my educational experiences.

Regardless of the native language of the student their integration into our American English language should be both respected and honored. No matter what language they spoke before acquiring their English language schools we can honor their effort and respect their efforts by extending credit for the learning journey. This bill can make that process a reality and contribute to the diversity, equity and inclusion of all cultures in our schools into the American milieu.

This bill is an ethical and moral commitment to support every student in their journey to become the best possible resident, and possible future citizen, within our state and our country.

. I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB#/0569.