

House Appropriations Committee
March 20, 2024

SB 527 - Community Colleges - Contraception - Access Requirements

Position: Favorable

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), representing Maryland's 16 community colleges, supports **SB 527**. This bill would require colleges to consult with students to develop and implement a plan to provide students with access to over-the-counter contraception on community college campuses.

MACC is in strong support of ensuring students have access to a full range of preventative, reproductive, and sexual health offerings. Many students may not have easy access to healthcare services, and access to contraceptives is essential for promoting health equity. Low-income students and students from marginalized communities may face greater barriers to accessing healthcare services, including contraceptives.

Maryland's community colleges understand that offering over-the-counter contraceptives is an important step toward promoting reproductive health, supporting student success, and addressing health disparities within the student population. Accordingly, MACC urges the Committee to issue a **FAVORABLE** vote on **SB 527**.

Please contact Brad Phillips (bphillips@mdacc.org) or Drew Jabin (djabin@mdacc.org) with questions.