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29 January 2024

Maryland House Office Building Room 121 Annapolis, MD 21401

Appropriations Committee – HB348

To: Chairman Barnes, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the House Appropriations Committee

As a Maryland Certified Public Manager Candidate at the University of Baltimore's Schaefer Center for Public Policy, I am developing myself as a better public manager for the Town of Ocean City. The theory and foundations the program is providing to me allows me to apply that knowledge to strengthen my leadership and managerial skills. The capstone project I have chosen will improve efficiency in my agency along with saving taxpayer money. The core competencies of public sector management are: personal and organizational integrity; managing work; leading people; developing self; systemic integration; public service focus; and, change leadership. The knowledge of these core competencies will allow me to implement what I have learned and be an innovative leader.

As a public servant for the Town of Ocean City, without the funding for the scholarship for the Certified Public Manager program, I would not be able to participate in the program. Budget funds are tight in all areas of government. Training funds are limited.

The professional development of managers through the Certified Public Manager program for government agencies is necessary due to job vacancy rates throughout the State of Maryland. Developing tomorrow's leaders in today's evolving workplace is essential, especially in government agencies. Without public servants, government cannot effectively function.

The University of Baltimore's Schaefer Center for Public Policy is known to promote excellence and for leadership development. The Schaefer Center for Public Policy is developing public leaders so the next generation of leaders can effectively lead, tackle issues that impact Maryland and its local communities, and answer the call to be a public servant.

Please continue to invest in Maryland's future public servants and deliver a favorable report on SB101. I am thankful to have benefitted from the funding in 2023/2024. I believe the funding can benefit future Maryland public servants in an age where public service is not a career path selected by many. Not only do I thank you, but the future of Maryland thanks you.

Sincerely,

Karin Scott