



**HOUSE  
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**Delegate Ben Barnes, Chair  
February 20, 2024**

**TESTIMONY**

**Submitted by  
Dr. Falecia D. Williams, President**

House Bill 0607- Community Colleges - Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship – Requirements  
**Position: Favorable**

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As the President of Prince George's Community College, we support House Bill 0607- Community Colleges - Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship – Requirements, which will aid Maryland Community College students.

House Bill 0607 recognizes the diverse pathways to education and ensures equitable access to opportunities for all Maryland residents. At Prince George's Community College, we strive to offer affordable and accessible education to all who seek a degree, want to earn a credential, boost a career, or are looking to learn new skills. This legislation also removes barriers that may impede the educational pursuits of our students. Furthermore, it acknowledges the important contributions of individuals who are seeking skills-based training and professional development.

In the past two academic years, we have more than 2000 continuing education students engaged in work skill enhancement courses. All of these students would benefit from the proposed changes in this legislation. Most scholarships do not support these students. These continuing education courses provide opportunities for advancement in current employment through increased knowledge and skill. Additionally, these courses open doors to the workforce and lead to living wage employment.

House Bill 0607 embodies the principles of inclusivity, flexibility, and efficiency in promoting educational opportunities for Maryland residents. House Bill 0607 also embodies the College's core commitments of students first, continuous improvement, empathy, and equity, to name a few. Ultimately, House Bill 0607 is for the betterment of the citizens of the State of Maryland.

Sincerely,

Falecia D. Williams, Ed.D.  
President  
Prince George's Community College