

ANNE ARUNDEL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Senate Energy, Education, and the Environment Committee January 24, 2024

TESTIMONY

SB 69 - Anne Arundel County - Board of Community College Trustees - Membership Alterations and Appointment Requirements

Submitted by:

Lawrence W. Ulvila, Jr., Board Chair
Anne Arundel Community College Board of Trustees

Position: Support

I want to thank the chair, vice chair and members of the committee of the Energy, Education, and the Environment Committee for the opportunity to submit testimony for SB 69, which will increase the membership of the Anne Arundel Community College Board of Trustees and consider geographic and ethnic representation so that all segments of the county are represented on the Board. I want to thank the Anne Arundel County Senate Delegation for their continued support of the 27,000 students at Anne Arundel Community College.

Currently, the Anne Arundel Community College Board of Trustees has eight members, which includes a student member with full voting rights. The Board's primary responsibility is to provide policy and fiscal oversight of the College. To do this, the Board has several committees that review and make recommendations in many areas, including audit and finance, board development, policy oversight, budget, human resources, facilities, and student success, and serve as a liaison on the College's Foundation Board of Directors.

Expanding the Board will help to distribute the workload. Currently, our trustees chair at least one committee and serve on other committees as well, in addition to attending regular public session meetings. Having two additional members will help reduce the time commitments involved with Board service on committees.

Anne Arundel Community College provides high-quality, affordable, accessible, and innovative lifelong learning opportunities to a diverse community. As such, Anne Arundel Community College is committed to diversity and inclusion and strives to have its student body and workforce reflect the diversity in Anne Arundel County. The College is a national leader recognized for its quality programs, efforts with student success and equity, and was recently ranked the #1 community college by Academic Influence in 2021.

By considering geographic and ethnic representation, this will help our Board reflect the diversity in the County and maintain our stature and commitment to excellence as well.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we respectfully request your support of SB 69, and appreciate your continued support of community college students in Anne Arundel County and Maryland.