

Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
February 22, 2024

SB 955 - State Government - Technology Advisory Commission - Established

Position: Favorable

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), representing Maryland's 16 community colleges, supports **SB 955**. This bill would establish the Technology Advisory Commission, which will study and make recommendations on technology and science developments and use in Maryland.

Community colleges play a crucial role in technology education and workforce development with the State, and MACC appreciates being included as a member of the proposed Commission. Maryland's community colleges serve as accessible entry points to higher education and technical training for many individuals, including those from underserved communities, non-traditional students, and adult learners. By having a seat on the Commission, MACC can advocate for policies and initiatives that promote equitable access to technology education and opportunities for all residents of the State.

Community colleges in Maryland have a significant role to play in advancing the goals of this Commission. Keeping a seat for Community Colleges on the Commission ensures that the Commission benefits from their diverse perspectives, expertise, and commitment to advancing technology education and workforce development in Maryland. Accordingly, MACC urges the Committee to issue a **FAVORABLE** vote on **SB 955**.

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