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Environment and Transportation Committee

Testimony by:
Maryland Association of Community Colleges
Dr. Brad Phillips, Executive Director
January 30, 2024

HB 69 – Community Development Administration – Live Near Where You Teach
Program - Establishment

Position: Favorable with Amendments

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), representing all of Maryland's 16 community colleges, supports HB 69, which authorizes the Community Development Administration in the Department of Housing and Community Development to administer a home buyer assistance program and other community development projects that assist school staff members with purchasing a home near the school where the staff member is employed.

MACC would like to make a friendly amendment that would also allow staff and faculty members who are employed at a Maryland community college to also take advantage of the establishment of a Live Where You Teach Program. Like teachers in our State's public elementary and secondary schools, our colleges would benefit from any incentives and benefits that would strengthen retention of the workforce and create a greater sense of community among the college.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill, our amendment, and all your efforts to improve Maryland's community colleges for the benefit of the students we serve.