

2/14/2024

Richard Keith Kaplowitz
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TESTIMONY ON SB#/0395- POSITION: FAVORABLE
**Higher Education - Credit Eligibility and Transfer of Credits - English as a Second
Language Courses (Credit for All Language Learning (CALL) Act)**

TO: Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the Education, Energy and the
Environment Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

**My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this
testimony in support of SB#/0395, Higher Education - Credit Eligibility and Transfer of
Credits - English as a Second Language Courses (Credit for All Language Learning (CALL)
Act)**

As a senior student at Frederick Community College currently having earned three degrees from
FCC over the last eight years I have been in classes where the diversity of the native languages
and cultures has added to my educational experiences. It is estimated that one in five Maryland
residents are not native English speakers.

Regardless of the native language of the student their integration into our American English
language should be both respected and honored. No matter what language they spoke before
acquiring their English language schools we can honor their effort and respect their efforts by
extending credit for the learning journey. This bill can make that process a reality and contribute
to the diversity, equity and inclusion of all cultures in our schools into the American milieu.

This bill is an ethical and moral commitment to support every student in their journey to become
the best possible resident, and possible future citizen, within our state and our country.

. I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB#/0395.