

House Health and Government Operations Committee January 28, 2025

HB 33 - Department of Service and Civic Innovation – Maryland Corps Program Service Year Option Pathways – Revisions

Position: Favorable

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), representing Maryland's 16 community colleges, supports **HB 33**, which enhances and refines the Maryland Corps Program Service Year Option Pathways. This legislation expands opportunities for Maryland residents to engage in meaningful service while developing essential skills that align with the workforce needs of our state.

Community colleges are essential gateways for students seeking career advancement, and HB 33 strengthens the link between service and skill development. The bill ensures greater accessibility for young people and a more efficient allocation of resources, allowing programs to better serve participants and host organizations.

HB 33's focus on workforce development through service placements aligns with MACC's mission to provide students with practical skills for career success. By prioritizing underrepresented individuals, the bill promotes inclusivity and equity—core values of Maryland's community colleges.

Accordingly, MACC urges the Committee to issue a FAVORABLE vote on HB 33.

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