

**Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee**

February 18, 2026

**SB 311 – Education - The Blueprint for Maryland's Future - Revisions**

**Position: Favorable with Amendments**

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The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), representing Maryland's 16 community colleges, supports **SB 311** with amendments. MACC appreciates the ongoing work of the Accountability and Implementation Board, the General Assembly, and State education and workforce partners to ensure the successful implementation of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. Maryland's community colleges play a central role in achieving the Blueprint's goals by providing affordable, accessible pathways to postsecondary education, workforce training, and industry-recognized credentials for students across the State. We remain committed to working collaboratively with the sponsor, committee, and all partners to ensure that Blueprint implementation continues to expand opportunity for Maryland students and strengthens alignment between K-12, higher education, and workforce systems.

MACC values the bill's continued commitment to expanding college and career pathways for Maryland students. However, the extension through fiscal year 2030 of the authority for the State Board of Education and the Accountability and Implementation Board to limit the number and types of dual enrollment courses raises strong concerns regarding potential constraints on student access to community college coursework and will likely provide inequitable levels of opportunities for students based on where they live.

Maryland's community colleges serve as the largest providers of dual enrollment, early college, and workforce pathways. Yet there is not any representation from community colleges in this legislation that would provide consultation or collaboration with decisions around the phase in or expansion of dual enrollment. As implementation continues, MACC respectfully requests amendment language clarifying that any limitation on dual enrollment be developed in partnership with Maryland's community colleges to ensure continued expansion of student access and allow our colleges to plan accordingly.

MACC also appreciates the bill's recognition of the important role community colleges play in Maryland's career and technical education and workforce development system and is pleased to see community college representation included on the Career and Technical Education Committee. To ensure consistent statewide coordination and alignment with workforce and postsecondary

priorities, MACC respectfully requests clarifying language specifying that the community college representative be the Maryland Association of Community Colleges Executive Director, or the Executive Director's designee. This approach reflects MACC's role representing all 16 of Maryland's community colleges and will help ensure coordinated systemwide input as the State continues to align CTE pathways with workforce and postsecondary opportunities.

Maryland's community colleges look forward to continued partnership with the General Assembly, the Accountability and Implementation Board, and State education and workforce leaders to ensure the successful implementation of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future and to expand equitable access to high-quality postsecondary and workforce opportunities for all Maryland students. For these reasons, MACC respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE** report on **SB 311** with continued collaboration.

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