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BILL NO.: **HB 415**

TITLE: Higher Education - Maryland Community College Promise
Scholarship - Revisions

SPONSOR: Delegate B. Barnes

COMMITTEE: Appropriations

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 11, 2020

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 415 – Higher Education - Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship - Revisions. This bill makes alterations to the Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship (MCCPS) program, including adjustments to eligibility requirements.

Community Colleges are a critical part of modern education and workforce development. As tuition at four-year colleges continues to rapidly climb, community colleges provide more affordable, more accessible opportunities to a more diverse student body. In Maryland, the MCCPS program makes the community college experience even more accessible and ensures that talented students are able to continue their education regardless of economic circumstances.

This bill allows an applicant to the MCCPS program to apply any time after graduating from high school or completing a GED rather than being limited to two years from that date. This change will allow adult learners to continue their education, enabling more Marylanders to benefit from this amazing scholarship opportunity.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 415. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Chief Legislative Officer, at 443-900-6582.