



# THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

## OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**BILL:** House Bill 1082 – Higher Education – Denial of Transfer Credit – Notice and Report (Transfer With Success Act)

**SPONSOR:** Delegate Solomon, *et al.*

**HEARING DATE:** March 5, 2020

**COMMITTEE:** Appropriations

**CONTACT:** Intergovernmental Affairs Office, 301-780-8411

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**POSITION:** SUPPORT

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The Office of the Prince George's County Executive **SUPPORTS House Bill 1082**, which requires a public institution that denies transfer credit must report the denial to the sending institution and must submit an annual report listing the denials and the reason for the denial of credit. The bill also requires the sending institution to have procedures directing the transfer coordinator at the sending institution to conduct a review of the reasons for the denial.

House Bill 1082 attempts to begin to determine why colleges and universities deny transfer of credit for similar courses. This issue leads students to take more time to complete degrees and to, subsequently, pay more for those degrees, particularly in like programs of study. Community college transfer students regularly cite their concerns about having to take more credits beyond the expected 120 credits because their credits were counted as electives instead of credits toward their intended program of study. They also attribute taking more time complete their 120-credit requirement to transfer credit denials, without reasons specifying those denials.

As Maryland's institutions of higher education support the State's higher education plan for more degree attainment at the associate level and beyond, it behooves us to work collaboratively to solve the dilemma of additional time and additional resources for students to complete. Annually, more than one-third of any given cohort of Prince George's Community College's students transfer to Maryland's four-year public and private colleges and universities. This issue should not continue to plague those students, as they persist and make valuable contributions to Maryland's workforce.

For the reasons stated above, the Office of the Prince George's County Executive **SUPPORTS House Bill 1082** and asks for a **FAVORABLE** report.