



JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR.  
*County Executive*

CHARLES R. CONNER III, ESQ.  
*Chief Legislative Officer*

KIMBERLY S. ROUTSON  
*Deputy Legislative Officer*

JOEL N. BELLER  
*Assistant Legislative Officer*

**BILL NO.:**            **SB 610**

**TITLE:**              **Community Colleges – Supplemental Services and Supports for Students With Disabilities Grant Program**

**SPONSOR:**         **Senator King**

**COMMITTEE:**      **Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs**

**POSITION:**        **SUPPORT**

**DATE:**              **February 12, 2020**

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** SB 610 – Community Colleges – Supplemental Services and Supports for Students With Disabilities Grant Program. Under this proposed legislation, the governor would include \$2.5 million in the annual budget bill as a general fund appropriation to the Commission on Higher Education, creating a grant program with specific guidelines for students with disabilities in community colleges.

A majority of young people with disabilities are capable of succeeding in higher education, and yet many find themselves facing barriers that their peers often do not. One of these barriers is financial. People with disabilities are still more likely to be unemployed, lose jobs, and be in low-wage work than their non-disabled peers, a problem further compounded by institutionalized racism and sexism. With this grant, students could provide documentation from a licensed medical professional and then receive assistance.

The Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) currently incurs nearly \$1million in costs to support disable populations. The cost of delivering support structures to students with disabilities is very high, and SB 610 offers a welcome source of support.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 610. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Chief Legislative Officer, at 443-900-6582.