



**Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
with Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
House Appropriations Committee, and House Ways and Means Committee**

TESTIMONY

Submitted by

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February 17, 2020

SB 1000/HB 1300 – Blueprint for Maryland's Future - Implementation

POSITION: Informational Letter

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC) representing all of Maryland's 16 community colleges thanks the Chair for the opportunity to address information on SB 1000 / HB 1300 – Blueprint for Maryland's Future – Implementation.

RE: Dual Enrollment

As a result of the passage of the College and Career Readiness and College Completion Act of 2013 (CCRCCA), dual enrollment at the community college level increased 168%.

Participation in dual enrollment programs are defined by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between their community college, their Local Education Agency (LEA) and State statute, which currently limits the LEA's fiscal responsibility for discounted payments to the community colleges to four courses. The proposed legislation removes this control, which may allow increased participation.

If dual enrollments were to dramatically increase, the current discounted tuition model could prove to be fiscally unsustainable for community colleges. MACC therefore offers the following amendments:

Page 157. 15-127 New (E) PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION MAY REVISIT CURRENT AGREEMENTS REGARDING DISCOUNTED TUITION RATES ON A BIENNIAL BASIS.

Page 131. 7-205.1 (I)(II) MSDE WILL DEVELOP A PROTOCOL TO TRACK STUDENTS AND STATE FUNDING IN THE COLLEGE AND CAREER PATHWAYS OUTLINED IN THIS LEGISLATION AND SHALL SUBMIT THIS DATA ANNUALLY TO THE ACCOUNTABILITY AND IMPLEMENTATION BOARD.

The bill's definition of a dually enrolled student includes all secondary school students which includes private school students. The bill stipulates that higher education institutions may not charge tuition for dually enrolled students. There is a provision for public schools to pay the established tuition (75 % or less) as stipulated under an existing agreement. However, there is no provision for recovery of tuition for dually enrolled students attending private schools.

We suggest:

Page 156. 15-127 (B) A public institution of higher education may not charge tuition to a **PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL** dually enrolled student.

The list of degree options for students entering the dually enrolled student program is limiting as community colleges offer Associate of Science in Engineering, Associate of Arts in Teaching, Associate of Arts in Science, Associate of Fine Arts in addition to the two listed. We suggest the following amendment that encompasses all degree options for maximum flexibility for students

Page 136. 7-205.1 (E) (4) (II) 1. AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE ~~IN ART OR SCIENCE~~; OR

RE: Career and Technical Education (CTE)

Community colleges career and technical programs are extremely complex, reflecting both credit and non-credit programs. Many of these programs must meet Middle States accreditation standards. To ensure that the community college representative on the CTE committee has the educational and technical background we suggest the following:

Page 164. 21-207 6 (IV) delete "Community Colleges"

Page 163. ADD 21-207 (D) (5) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES, OR HIS DESIGNEE.

~~(5)~~(6) THE CHAIR OF THE SKILLS STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE, ESTABLISHED UNDER § 21–208 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND

~~(6)~~(7) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, JOINTLY SELECTED BY THE GOVERNOR, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, WHO REPRESENT:

RE: Career and College Readiness (CCR) Setting

The proposed legislation defines CCR readiness as preparedness for credit-bearing coursework at the community college level. The proposed legislation defines readiness by a student performance level on the Partnership for Assessment for Readiness and College and Careers (PARCC) or successor assessment supported by an empirical student.

Because this is a community college standard, we suggest adding the following:

Page 131. 7-205.1. (B)(2) **THE STATE BOARD SHALL COORDINATE AND CONSULT WITH THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION, THE GOVERNOR’S WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES, AND THE ACCOUNTABILITY AND IMPLEMENTATION BOARD IN PERFORMING ITS DUTIES UNDER THIS SECTION.**

RE: Teacher Preparation Programs

MACC is supportive of the legislative proposals for teacher preparation programs. Community colleges have always been an entry point for students entering teaching careers. This legislation will require all of Maryland’s higher education institutions to revisit the statewide AAT agreement (Associate of Arts in Teaching) to make certain that teachers will be able to transfer seamlessly, and without loss of credit due to increased credit loads and practicum requirements.