

Senate Finance with the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

Testimony Submitted by Dr. Bernard Sadusky, Executive Director February 13, 2020

Bill: SB 302 – Joint Committee on Workforce Development

Position: Favorable with Amendment

The Maryland Association of Community College which represents all of Maryland's 16 community colleges supports SB 302 specifying that a joint committee be established to study and report on the State Workforce Development. Maryland's community colleges are the leading provider of educational programming for workforce certification and licensure. Last year, our community colleges awarded 53,068 licensure and certifications. That is in addition to the number of WorkSmart programs for existing industries totally 73,000 participants.

Our community colleges are the primary provider of programs leading to a strong middle class which ensures Maryland's economic vitality. We support the intent of this bill in developing a strong review panel who would be charged with making useful recommendations to all educational segments which provide programming in this area.

The committee should recognize that a thorough review and analysis will require technical expertise. MACC therefore recommends inclusions of a community college practitioner in the composition of the committee.