



24 February 2020

Senator Delores G. Kelley
3 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: SB 540

Dear Senator Kelley,

On behalf of the students and the region which we serve I provide this letter of support for any effort to bring about greater connectivity for our students in our five-county Mid-Shore region. At Chesapeake College distance and transportation remain one of the greater challenges for our students to access higher education and training essential for success in today's modern world. Every year a growing number of our students seek out distance education options in both credit and non-credit coursework offered by Chesapeake College.

I also know from my own experience that broadband access is spotty across our region so in addition to access to programs and information at Chesapeake College that regular high quality and high speed access for phone service would bring, this is also an issue across the Eastern Shore for regular phone connectivity.

I laud the efforts of Choptank Electric to provide additional means to extend broadband connectivity to the Eastern Shore.

Sincerely,

Clifford P. Coppersmith, Ph.D.
President, Chesapeake College