



**HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**Testimony Submitted by**

**Bernard Sadusky, Ed.D., Executive Director**

**March 16, 2021**

**HB 1159 – Higher Education – Community College Credits – General Education Courses**

**Position: SUPPORT**

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The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC) supports *HB 1159 – Higher Education – Community College Credits – General Education Courses*. We greatly appreciate Delegate Thiam’s recognition of the importance of a transparent transfer process between Maryland’s two- and four-year public institutions of higher education. This legislation sets in statute current COMAR regulations that address the transfer of general education courses within an associate degree.

MACC recognizes the need to streamline the transfer process between Maryland’s two- and four-year public institutions and is currently supporting the work of faculty discipline committees in hope of simplifying COMAR regulations and make the process more transparent for students. We understand that loss of credit is costly to both the student who has had to pay for additional courses and for the taxpayers who supplement the cost of postsecondary education – both private and public. We strongly believe that a student transferring with an associate degree should enter a public four-college or university with third year status and not be required to take additional lower division courses.

This legislation is one step toward clarifying what is expected in a student-centered transfer process between the State’s two- and four-year public institutions.

MACC supports this legislation.