

TESTIMONY

Date 2/8/2021

House Bill 894 – Education – Community Colleges – Collective Bargaining

SUPPORT

Dear members of the Appropriations Committee:

Hello my name is Shea Pines and I teach for Prince George's Community College in Largo, Maryland. I am Program Director for the Surgical Technology Program. I support bill HB894 – Education – Community Colleges – Collective Bargaining. I believe that I deserve the right to decide for myself to be represented by a union. This is a fundamental right that over 200,000 other public sector workers enjoy, and community college employees should not be denied the basic right.

COVID-19 has impacted me in a number of ways the lack of support for smaller groups taught online has affected my program greatly. Having the right to collective bargaining would help me and your colleagues at Prince George's Community College. With support I am confident that I could have the top Surgical Technology program in the region. Smaller groups afford me the ability to reach students better and enhance their skills by recognizing deficits early. My goal is to reach all students and provide them with a productive learning environment that they deserve.

This is the year to pass this legislation and I deserve a seat at the table. This legislation is important and needed to keep Maryland's Community Colleges running safely and building Maryland back better after this pandemic is over. I ask you to vote yes on HB 894 and strongly urge a favorable committee report.

Respectfully,

Shea Pines