



SEIU MARYLAND & DC STATE COUNCIL

1410 Bush Street, Suite F
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Testimony in SUPPORT HB 173
Community Colleges – State Funding – Revision
House Appropriations Committee
January 28, 2021
1:00 PM

Submitted to Maggie McIntosh, Chairman
By Terry Cavanagh, Executive Director

SEIU Maryland & DC State Council requests a **Favorable Report on HB 173.**

With over two million members, SEIU is the largest union in North America. We are uniting workers in health care, public services, including in public education, and property services to improve lives and the services we provide. In the Maryland, Washington, DC, and Virginia area, we represent over 50,000 workers.

For many of our members, their best chance for moving into the middle class lies with their access to a community college. Making community colleges more affordable means giving greater opportunity for economic advancement for so many of our working families. However, for several years we have been going the wrong way and putting a college education further out of reach for many.

We expect more and more from our community colleges and provide them comparatively less. This puts an unfair burden on local government and students. While local government has maintained funding, costs to students have increased. As costs increase, student enrollment suffers and for many, opportunities evaporate.

We ask to increase funding to meet the needs of students, faculty and staff.

We ask a Favorable Report on House Bill 173. Thank you.

