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BILL NO.: **HB 894**

TITLE: Education - Community Colleges - Collective Bargaining

SPONSOR: Delegate Haynes

COMMITTEE: Appropriations

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 10, 2021

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 894 – Education - Community Colleges - Collective Bargaining. This legislation establishes collective bargaining for faculty and adjunct faculty in community colleges.

In the community college system, some maintenance workers, nurses, and college police are represented by the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME). However, in most cases, these rights do not extend to faculty and adjunct faculty. In any school system, the faculty serve as the face of the school. It is the professors who administer a student’s education and work to improve the learning experience of college students.

As a former educator, Baltimore County Executive Olszewski understands how essential school faculty is not only to the students, but also to the performance of the school. Teachers and educators are relied on across the state to prepare the next generation of Marylanders for the future. In the past year, faculty have had to adjust and amend their practices to operate in unprecedented times with little to no preparation.

These educators, like so many other workers who manage the institution, deserve to have their voices heard and to speak as one. This not only will help employees, but also the school system, which will benefit from collective input from those who work with students directly.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 894. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Director of Government Affairs, at cconner@baltimorecountymd.gov.