

Legislative Testimony 326.pdf

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Legislative Testimony:
SB326

I strongly support Senator Antonio Hayes's Senate Bill 326 to improve Baltimore City Community College and help the institution with procuring funds and resources.

**RICHARD
ELLIOTT**
FOR MARYLAND

By Authority: Rich Elliott For Maryland Keanu Smith-Brown, Campaign Chair Christian Hillian, Treasurer

SB0326 -02.03.21.BCCC-Procurement Authority.final.

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**TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**SENATE BILL 326 – BALTIMORE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE –
PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY**

Sponsor: Senator Hayes

February 3, 2021

**DONALD C. FRY
PRESIDENT & CEO
GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE**

Position: Support

Senate Bill 326 exempts Baltimore City Community College (BCCC) from certain provisions of the State procurement law, thereby providing BCCC with the same level of procurement authority as other Maryland universities and community colleges.

Following its 2017 realignment, BCCC identified barriers to effective and efficient operations in the areas of procurement and capital construction projects. This bill is a response to that effort. The Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) contends that BCCC should have the same flexibility and streamlined authority to obtain needed equipment, services, and facilities as other Maryland universities and community colleges.

BCCC, like all community colleges, must be able to acquire student support services, equipment, and facilities improvements flexibly and in response to changing labor market conditions. Senate Bill 326 will significantly improve the institution's capacity to serve its students as it prepares them for productive careers in the regional economy. BCCC plays an important role in preparing residents of Baltimore City and the surrounding region for employment in skilled, high-demand jobs. It also enables thousands of young people to obtain a four-year education at local public and private colleges and universities.

BCCC is an important institution in Baltimore City that affects thousands of students every day. Senate Bill 326 will significantly improve BCCC's operational effectiveness and enable it to achieve its mission of providing excellent outcomes for students and contributing to the region's economy.

This bill is also consistent with one of the key tenets in *Gaining the Competitive Edge: Keys to Economic Growth and Job Creation in Maryland*, a report published by the GBC that identifies eight core pillars for a competitive business environment and job growth. The pillar provides:

Workforce that is highly-educated and meets Maryland's business needs. Maryland's secondary and higher education institutions must offer access to quality instruction at all levels and cultivate a workforce that is well-suited to a modern economy and to the specific needs of Maryland's business sectors.

By eliminating inefficiencies in procurement, Senate Bill 326 allows BCCC to focus on its core mission and help build an educated and qualified workforce.

For these reasons, the Greater Baltimore Committee urges a favorable report on Senate Bill 326.

The Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) is a non-partisan, independent, regional business advocacy organization comprised of hundreds of businesses -- large, medium and small -- educational institutions, nonprofit organizations and foundations located in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard counties as well as Baltimore City. The GBC is a 66-year-old, private-sector membership organization with a rich legacy of working with government to find solutions to problems that negatively affect our competitiveness and viability.

GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE

111 South Calvert Street • Suite 1700 • Baltimore, Maryland • 21202-6180

(410) 727-2820 • www.gbc.org

2021 Testimony on SB 326.pdf

Uploaded by: Hayes, Antonio

Position: FAV

ANTONIO HAYES
Legislative District 40
Baltimore City

Finance Committee



Annapolis Office
James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 222
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3656 · 301-858-3656
800-492-7122 Ext. 3656
Antonio.Hayes@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 3, 2021

**Testimony of Senator Antonio Hayes in Support of SB 326:
Baltimore City Community College – Procurement Authority**

Dear Chairman Pinsky and Members of the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee:

According to the current Maryland Education law 16–505., Baltimore City Community College is required to receive multiple levels of approval from various oversight commissions in order to gain procurement authority over their institution. This process can take anywhere from a few months to a few years.

Senate Bill 326 is being reintroduced this session for the purpose of exempting Baltimore City Community College from Division II of the State procurement law. The bill also requires that the BCCC Board of Trustees create new procurement policies – subject to AELR and BPW review. Removing unnecessary bureaucratic barriers when requesting procurement allows colleges to become empowered with updated technology and materials in a timely fashion, benefiting both universities and students alike. The current law currently exempts the University System of Maryland (USM), Morgan State University (MSU), and St. Mary’s College of Maryland (SMCM) from the same provisions of procurement law that are in place for BCCC, which allows those higher education institutions to move forward with projects at a higher rate of speed than other institutions. These universities are able to upgrade facilities quicker and provide their students with higher quality materials than other schools in Maryland.

The autonomy granted by the bill will create more channels of operational efficiency for the college. BCCC will assume the new responsibilities and procurement authority with existing resources and will not pose a financial burden to Baltimore City or the state of Maryland.

I urge a favorable vote on Senate Bill 326.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Antonio L. Hayes", written in a cursive style.

Senator Antonio L. Hayes
40th Legislative District - MD

SB 326 Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Guido, Jeffry

Position: UNF



**Maryland Senate – Education Health and Environmental Affairs
Committee**

**Chair: Paul G. Pinsky
Vice Chair: Cheryl Kagan**

**Senate Bill 326– Baltimore City Community College –Procurement
Authority**

Position: Oppose

Electrical Workers

Insulators

Boilermakers

United Association

Roofers

Cement Masons

Teamsters

Laborers

Bricklayers

Ironworkers

Sheet Metal Workers

Elevator Constructors

Painters

Operating Engineers

Carpenters

The Baltimore DC Metro Building Trades Council opposes SB 326. The Baltimore City College should not be exempt from the MD procurement prevailing wage provisions. As prevailing wage calls for the use of registered apprentices and construction has been determined to be an essential workforce it is imperative that we expand prevailing wage and not curtail it. The economic benefit to the City college and its environs with greater influx of money into the community. As a secondary post high school education the Baltimore City College can work with Labor to provide the on the job training that is the majority of training required for an apprentice. With that we want to work with the College and keep it's commitment to education and remain a vital component with prevailing wage construction. We have to ask for an unfavorable report.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeff Guido



Solar energy provided almost one-third of the state's renewable electricity generation and has increased significantly in recent years, doubling from 2016 to 2019. Two-thirds of the state's solar generation came from small-scale solar photovoltaics (PV), such as rooftop solar panels, and the rest of the generation was at larger utility-scale solar farms.⁸⁰ By mid-2020, Maryland had 1,122 megawatts of total solar generating capacity installed.⁸¹ The state's largest solar project—located on the Eastern Shore—came online in 2018 with a generating capacity of 75 megawatts.⁸² Several large solar panel arrays also have been installed at commercial buildings in the state.⁸³

Wind energy provided about 12% of Maryland's renewable electricity generation in 2019.⁸⁴ The state's best onshore wind potential is in its western mountains and along its southern Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean shorelines.⁸⁵ The state's only operating utility-scale wind farms are along Maryland's western Appalachian Mountain crests, where almost 200 megawatts of generating capacity is installed.^{86,87} Maryland's greatest wind energy potential is offshore.⁸⁸ Two major wind projects are planned off Maryland's Atlantic coastline. One wind project, located about 17 miles offshore, will consist of 32 turbines that can generate up to 270 megawatts of electricity and is scheduled to come online in early 2023.⁸⁹ A second wind project, expected to come online in late 2023, will be located about 20 miles offshore and have 12 turbines with a generating capacity of 144 megawatts.^{90,91,92}

Many of the job creation aspects can be adopted from the Clean Energy Jobs Act of 2019 Chapter 757.

We ask for an unfavorable report by the committee.

Sincerely,
Jeffry Guido

(E) jguido@bdcbt.org (O) 301-909-1071 (C) 240-687-5195

5829 Allentown Rd Camp Spring MD 20746

- Electrical Workers
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