THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

BILL:	**Senate Bill 746 – Education - Community Colleges - Collective Bargaining**
SPONSOR:	**Senators Guzzone, et al.**
HEARING DATE:	**March 4, 2021**
COMMITTEE:	**Finance**
CONTACT:	**Intergovernmental Affairs Office, 301-780-8411**
POSITION:	**SUPPORT**

The Office of the Prince George's County Executive **SUPPORTS Senate Bill 746**, which establishes collective bargaining for faculty and adjunct faculty at community colleges. The proposed legislation permits our community college employees to jointly decide on the path of advocacy they believe best supports their needs and enables individuals the right to exercise choice in their participation of any representation.

This bill provides faculty and adjunct professors a vital seat at the table of advocacy. Akin to other public servants in Prince George's County, like some of our teachers, police officers, firefighters, maintenance workers, and nurses, our community college educators deserve the ability to participate in collectively bargaining. And in our County, we have seen very position results from collective bargaining, because when workers have a seat at the table, organizations run smoother.

As the County and State continue to move education goals forward and close educational gaps after COVID-19, it is apparently clear our community college will continue to play a major role in these efforts. However, these vital educators have been barred from a fundamental right to collectively bargain, and work with stakeholders to negotiate how best to operate and educate in a post-COVID landscape.

Now is time to give those that work directly with our students a say, because our educators, which are some of the most essentials workers in our community, deserve to have an organized voice – this will provide benefits to the employees, students and the entire community college system.

For the reasons stated above, the Office of the Prince George's County Executive **SUPPORTS Senate Bill 746** and asks for a **FAVORABLE report**.