



## Senate Finance Committee

Testimony Submitted by  
Dr. Bernard Sadusky, Executive Director

February 16, 2021

**SB 444 Transforming Manufacturing in a Digital Economy Workgroup (Making It in Maryland)**

**Position: Favorable with Amendment**

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges which represents all of Maryland's 16 community colleges supports SB 444 establishing a workgroup to study and make recommendations relating to the State's current and future workforce and emerging digital economy. Maryland's community colleges are the leading provider of training for workforce certification and licensure. Last year, our community colleges awarded 53,068 licensure and certifications. That is in addition to the 73,000 participants trained through programs customized for industries.

Our community colleges are the primary provider of programs leading to a strong middle class which ensures Maryland's economic vitality. We support the intent of this bill in developing a workgroup that would be charged with making recommendations to all segments of Maryland's education system that provide programming in this area.

The Committee should recognize that a thorough review and analysis will require technical expertise. Therefore, **MACC recommends the inclusion of two community college representatives on the Committee; one representing our credit programs of study that lead to associate or bachelor degrees and one representing our non-credit programs of study that lead to industry credentials.**