



SENATE BUDGET & TAXATION COMMITTEE

TESTIMONY

**Submitted by
Dr. Brad Phillips, Executive Director
Maryland Association of Community Colleges**

February 16, 2022

SB 473 – Economic Development – Maryland E–Nnovation Initiative Program – Qualifying

POSITION: Favorable

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), representing Maryland's sixteen (16) community colleges, supports Senate Bill 473 and respectfully requests that the Committee issue a favorable report. This legislation enhances the ability of Maryland's community colleges to participate in the E-Nnovation Initiative Program.

As originally established, the Maryland e-Nnovation Initiative Program required a minimum donation or pledge of \$500,000 to qualify for the program. This legislation reduces the minimum pledge to \$200,000 for those institutions of higher education that have an unrestricted budget of less than \$250 M. This eliminates a major barrier for Maryland's community colleges that may be interested in participating in Maryland's E-Nnovation Initiative.

MACC thanks the sponsors for introducing this change to the E–Nnovation Program and asks the Committee to give it a favorable report.