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**SENATE BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE**

**Testimony by  
Dr. Brad Phillips, Executive Director  
March 28, 2023**

**SB 879 – Job Help for All**

**POSITION: Favorable with Amendment**

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The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), representing Maryland’s 16 community colleges, supports SB 879 Job Help for All legislation and respectfully urge consideration of an amendment to keep community colleges as a required partner in these local career counseling agreements.

We support the intent of this legislation which would allow students access to more resources related to workforce development, such as career counseling and apprenticeship services, and that would help them to find and keep good jobs. However, we are concerned at the removal of community colleges from these local career counseling agreements. Community colleges are the largest providers of workforce training in the state, and they play a vital role in helping businesses to meet their workforce needs.

Community Colleges already work closely with the local workforce development boards. These agreements both allow for consistency state in how these boards are utilizing resources locally and provide additional resources to best provide our middle and high school students with career services, and also allows us to continue to work closely with businesses to meet their workforce needs.

MACC requests a favorable position with amendment on SB879.