

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Testimony by Dr. Brad Phillips, Executive Director February 22, 2023

SB413 – Apprenticeship 2030 Commission

POSITION: Letter of Information

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), representing Maryland's 16 community colleges, thanks the Senate Finance Committee for the opportunity to provide information on SB413 and our involvement with Apprenticeships in the state.

The legislation proposes a number of concepts intended to nurture and grow Registered Apprenticeships in the State. Because community colleges are Maryland's primary providers of customized training programs, our institutions have been instrumental in partnering with local area businesses and industries to design the needed curriculum and provide the accompanying training that these grants have promulgated. These programs have improved career pathways in a variety of industries including information technology, transportation and logistics, and biotechnology. While MACC understands the sponsor's intent to strengthen Maryland's apprenticeship programs, we offer this letter of information because of the ways this Commission would affect our ability to design and administer these programs.

We ask for the Committee to consider including a representative from community colleges in the Apprenticeship 2030 Commission.

On behalf of the Maryland Association of Community Colleges, thank you for the opportunity to share this information with you on this critical legislation. We appreciate your support for our students.