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Judicial Proceedings Committee
Executive Nominations Committee

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Senate Bill 822 – Pathways in Technology Early College High (P-Tech) School Program – High School
Diplomas

March 27, 2023

Dear Chairwoman Atterbeary, Vice Chairwoman Wilkins, and Members of the Committee,

The purpose of this bill is to require that each Pathways in Technology Early College High, also known as P-Tech, student receive a high school diploma immediately following completion of high school graduation requirements. Many students who have not received their diplomas following graduation have dealt with disadvantages as a result. Currently many students do not obtain learners permits until they turn 18 years of age and without their diploma, they must wait 9 months to obtain a Provisional License and extended probationary period. This causes transportation issues for them when they are out of high school and going to the Allegany College of Maryland campus.

I thus ask that the state to reconsider the practice of keeping the diploma “on file” for P-Tech students so they will have access to receiving federal financial aid for housing, additional courses, and more. I also ask that all funding opportunities for P-Tech remain intact despite releasing the diploma to the students who have fulfilled the requirements of their graduation.

I'm proud to say that it passed unanimously in the Senate 47-0. Thank you very much and I ask for a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Senator Mike McKay

Representing the Appalachia Region of Maryland

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