

## HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair

February 23, 2023

## **TESTIMONY**

Submitted by Dr. Falecia D. Williams, President

HB0680- Income Tax - Student Loan Debt Relief Tax Credit - Alterations

**Position: Favorable** 

As the President of Prince George's Community College ("PGCC"), we support House Bill 0680- Income Tax - Student Loan Debt Relief Tax Credit – Alterations, which will increase the number of tax credits those with student loan debt can use against their state income taxes. This program also ensures that student loan holders can significantly reduce their levels of debt.

This pursuit constitutes a material benefit to graduates and our state. Taking full advantage of the available assistance will also allow graduates to use their college degrees or enhanced skill credentials. This will assist in living after graduation, to maintain a sustainable living wage.

Our collective goal is to provide opportunity and access for every Maryland student to pursue their higher education goals. It is of the utmost importance to ensure that these students have the opportunity to take advantage of financial assistance, while in pursuit of their academic goals and afterwards. Every financial resource available to assist our students' path to postsecondary education that leads to degree completion or workforce skill enhancement is essential.

In conclusion, this proposed legislation benefits Maryland and graduates of higher education institutions. This legislation will make a difference.

Sincerely,

Falecia D. Williams, Ed.D.

President

Prince George's Community College