

CRAIG J. ZUCKER
Legislative District 14
Montgomery County

Budget and Taxation Committee
Chair, Capital Budget Subcommittee

Chair, Senate Democratic Caucus



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony of Senator Craig J. Zucker
Senate Bill 967/ House Bill 901 – Higher Education - Part-Time Senatorial and
Delegate Scholarships - Alterations
Appropriations Committee
March 20th, 2024
1:00PM
Position: Favorable

Good afternoon, Chair Barnes, Vice Chair Chang, and distinguished members of the committee. It is my pleasure to testify today in support of **Senate Bill 967 – Higher Education - Part-Time Senatorial and Delegate Scholarships – Alterations**.

Senate Bill 967 is in the same posture as the cross-file, House Bill 901, both of which passed their chambers unanimously. Currently, to qualify for a part-time scholarship from the Maryland Senatorial and Delegate Scholarship program, students must enroll in at least six credit hours per semester. Senate Bill 967 would allow Maryland students with documented disabilities to seek a waiver from the Maryland Higher Education Commission regarding this semester hour requirement.

This proposed change aims to provide equal opportunities for students with documented disabilities to access educational scholarships. Senate Bill 967 seeks to remove a barrier that might prevent students from receiving financial assistance for their education and ensures that all students have the chance to pursue their academic goals and contribute to their communities.

For these reasons, **I urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 967**. Thank you for your kind consideration.