



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 90
Chair: Senator Guy Guzzone

January 16, 2024

Dear Chairman Guzzone, and members of the committee:

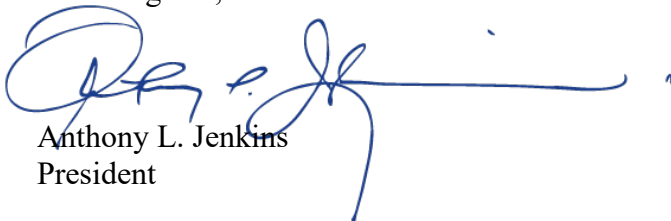
On behalf of the students, faculty, and staff of Coppin State University, I appreciate the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of Senate Bill 90.

Coppin State University holds the distinct designation of being an anchor institution. As such, we have the responsibility and play a crucial role in lifting the community of West Baltimore. Since 1900 we have catalyzed creating upward and economic mobility for our students and the surrounding community.

In 2021, Senator Antonio Hayes introduced the Live Near Your School Bill SB 637. Senate Bill 637 seeks to ensure that Maryland invests in both its students and college communities around the state. The intent of the legislation is for current students and recent graduates to secure low-interest loans to purchase a home near their school as well as help provide students with grants for purchasing homes in sustainable communities. The philosophical premise of this bill aligns with the mission of Coppin State University.

Senate Bill 90 extends the sunset until 2030. Currently, the bill will sunset in September 2024. It also provides a mandatory appropriation of \$200,000 over the next 5 years. Therefore, I am requesting your consideration and favorable support to help invest in the communities that support local and state economic development.

Best Regards,



Anthony L. Jenkins
President