



**Maryland Higher Education Commission Testimony
Senate Bill 967**

**Higher Education - Part-Time Senatorial and Delegate Scholarships
Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West, Annapolis, MD
Senator Brian Feldman, Chair**

February 28, 2024

1:00 PM

Good afternoon Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan and committee members. My name is Dr. Sanjay Rai and I serve as the Acting Secretary for the Maryland Higher Education Commission. Chair Feldman, I want to thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 967, “Part-Time Senatorial and Delegate Scholarships - Alterations”. It is good seeing you again. I also want to thank Senator Craig Zucker, the sponsor of this legislation for his strong support of students with disabilities and commitment to bettering their lives and educational outcomes.

Senate Bill 967 seeks to remove the full time requirement for senatorial and delegate scholarships, by allowing a waiver to be determined based on proof of disability. The Maryland Higher Education Commission recognizes the importance of meeting the educational needs of students with disabilities. Senate Bill 967 will allow eligible recipients to be awarded scholarships even with a part time enrollment status.

This legislation is a powerful tool to better the lives of Marylanders. In closing, I am asking for a favorable report in support of Senate Bill 967. Thank you.