

**Senate Finance Committee
Testimony by
Dr. Brad Phillips, Executive Director
February 1, 2024**

SB 91 - Workforce Development and Adult Learning - Leasing Training Program - Establishment

Position: Favorable with Amendments

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), representing Maryland's 16 community colleges, supports **SB 91**, which would establish a Leasing Training Program to train, prepare, and connect job seekers with careers in the residential rental housing industry in Maryland.

MACC appreciates this bill and requests a friendly amendment that would enable community colleges to be included as one of the organizations that train and connect job seekers with careers as leasing professionals in the State's residential housing industry. Maryland's community colleges play a pivotal role in training the workforce for careers in the residential rental housing industry within the state. Our colleges offer comprehensive programs and courses tailored to the specific needs of the industry, ensuring that students receive relevant and up-to-date training. Through partnerships with local businesses and industry experts, community colleges provide students with practical skills necessary for success in the residential rental housing field.

Maryland's community colleges are instrumental in bridging the skills gap and preparing a qualified workforce that can contribute to the growth and sustainability of the residential rental housing sector in Maryland. Accordingly, MACC urges the Committee to issue a **FAVORABLE** vote on **SB 91** with **AMENDMENTS** to make Maryland's community colleges eligible for the Leasing Training Program.