

MWA Members

Anne Arundel County

Anne Arundel Workforce
Development Corporation
Kirkland Murray, Executive Director

Baltimore City

Mayor's Office of Employment
Development
MacKenzie Garvin, Director

Baltimore County

Baltimore County Department of
Economic and Workforce
Development
Jonathan Sachs, Director

Carroll County

Carroll County Workforce
Development
Heather Lee Powell, Manager

Frederick County

Frederick County Workforce
Services
Michelle Day, Director

Howard County

Howard County Office of Workforce
Development
Stephanie Adibe, Director

Lower Shore

Lower Shore Workforce Alliance
(Somerset, Wicomico, & Worcester,
Counties)
*Leslie Porter-Cabell, Workforce
Director*

Montgomery County

WorkSource Montgomery, Inc.
*Anthony Featherstone, Executive
Director*

Prince George's County

Prince George's County Workforce
Development Board
*Walter Simmons, Executive
Director*

Southern Maryland

Southern Maryland Job Source
(Calvert, Charles, & St. Mary's
Counties)
Ruthy Davis, Director

Susquehanna Region

Susquehanna Workforce Network,
Inc. (Cecil & Harford Counties)
Kimberly Justus, Executive Director

Upper Shore

Upper Shore Workforce Investment
Board (Caroline, Dorchester, Kent,
Queen Anne's, & Talbot Counties)
*Dan McDermott, Interim Executive
Director*

Western Maryland

Western Maryland Consortium
(Allegany, Garrett &
Washington Counties)
*Amos McCoy, Interim Executive
Director*

March 3, 2025

Senator Brian Feldman, Chair

Senate Education, Energy & Environment Committee

2 West Miller Senate Office Building

Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Feldman & Members of the Senate Education, Energy & Environment Committee:

I am writing in strong OPPOSITION of SB 852: Blueprint for Maryland's Future - Alterations.

Maryland's economy depends on a well-prepared, career-ready talent pipeline. SB 852 eliminates that by eliminating the Career Counseling Program for Middle and High School Students. The partnership between local education agencies, workforce development boards, community colleges and businesses is vital to ensuring that students receive relevant career guidance tailored to Maryland's in-demand industries. These collaborations will help address skills gaps, reduce youth unemployment, and align student aspirations with real workforce opportunities.

However, SB 852 eliminates this program even as the first full year of implementation is just now wrapping up. For the sake of students and the future workforce for Maryland's businesses, we are asking you to oppose SB 852's elimination of career counseling for students.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to Maryland's students and economy. Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can provide additional information or insights on the benefits of this bill.

Sincerely,

Kirkland Murray, President

Maryland Workforce Association