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Education, Energy, and
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Executive Nominations Committee



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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**The Senate Education, Energy, and Environment Committee
SB 879 – Institutions of Higher Education – Dually Enrolled Students –
Alterations
Statement of Support by Bill Sponsor Senator Mary Beth Carozza**

Thank you Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and the esteemed members of the distinguished Senate Education, Energy, and Environment Committee for this opportunity to present Senate Bill 879 – Institutions of Higher Education – Dually Enrolled Students – Alterations.

SB 879 as amended would expand the definition of a dually enrolled student to include non-public secondary school and home-schooled students to allow for more students to be eligible for the Part-time Grant program and the Early College Access Grant. This legislation would ensure equal access to dual enrollment programs no matter a student's educational path.

The dual enrollment program improves college and career outcomes for our students, and reduces potential financial barriers to college access. Non-public and home school students deserve equitable access to college just like their public-school peers, and SB 879 ensures this opportunity for more Maryland high school students.

Working with the House sponsor, SB 879 has been amended to be a pilot project in Washington County. I thank you for your kind consideration, and respectfully request a favorable report on SB 879 as amended.