

Frederick Co Del Letter of Support

Uploaded by: Frederick County Delegation Frederick County Delegation

Position: FAV

DELEGATE JESSE T. PIPPY
DELEGATION CHAIR
SENATOR WILLIAM G. FOLDEN
DELEGATION VICE CHAIR



THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
FREDERICK COUNTY DELEGATION

SENATORS
PAUL D. CORDERMAN
KAREN LEWIS YOUNG
JUSTIN READY

DELEGATES
CHRISTOPHER ERIC BOUCHAT
BARRIE S. CILIBERTI
KRIS FAIR
KENNETH P. KERR
APRIL FLEMING MILLER
APRIL ROSE
KAREN SIMPSON
CHRIS TOMLINSON
WILLIAM VALENTINE
WILLIAM WIVELL

02/13/2026

Chair Barnes and Vice-Chair Kaiser,

SB534, Frederick Community College - Board of Trustees – Meeting and Training Requirements, was voted on by the Frederick County Delegation on February 13th, 2026, and received support from a majority of the Delegation as amended. A voting list has been sent to the committee along with this letter. The Frederick County Delegation asks for a favorable report from the House Appropriations Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jesse T. Pippy".

Del. Jesse T. Pippy – Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William G. Folden".

Sen. William Folden – Vice Chair

Frederick Co Del Vote Sheet

Uploaded by: Frederick County Delegation Frederick County Delegation

Position: FAV

Frederick County Delegation – Voting List

Date: 2-13-26

Item: SB534 - Frederick Community College – Board of Trustees – Meeting and Training Requirements

Motion: Favorable, Delegation Support

Description: Amendments to insert a preamble on page one after line 12, and insert on page 2 after line 12 storage requirements

Name	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Chair Pippy	X			
Vice Chair Folden	X			
Delegate Bouchat	X			
Delegate Ciliberti	X			
Senator Corderman	X			
Delegate Fair	X			
Delegate Kerr	X			
Senator Lewis-Young	X			
Delegate Miller	X			
Senator Ready	X			
Delegate Rose				X
Delegate Simpson	X			
Delegate Tomlinson	X			
Delegate Valentine	X			
Delegate Wivell	X			
FINAL VOTE	14	0	0	1

SB0534 - crossfiled bill - FAV - FCC - Board of T

Uploaded by: Richard KAP Kaplowitz

Position: FAV

SB0534_Crossfiled_Bill
RichardKaplowitz_FAV
04/08/2026
Richard Keith Kaplowitz
Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON CROSS-FILED BILL SB#0534- POSITION:
FAVORABLE

Frederick Community College - Board of Trustees - Meeting and Training Requirements

TO: Chair Barnes, Vice Chair Kaiser, and members of the Appropriations Committee
FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of cross-filed bill SB#0534, **Frederick Community College - Board of Trustees - Meeting and Training Requirements**

This bill is a priority for the Frederick County delegation Senators.

I submitted testimony on the cross-filed bill version heard in your chamber. That was bill HB0839 as amended which passed the House 128-0 and has received a favorable report from the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee.

This is the crossover bill from the other chamber SB0534. I urge you to support this bill which passed the Senate with amendments by the vote of 39-0. Please reconcile these bills and pass them in both chambers after a favorable vote in your committee.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on cross-filed bill SB#0534.

SB534 House Written Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Senator Karen Lewis Young

Position: FAV

KAREN LEWIS YOUNG
Legislative District 3
Frederick County

Budget and Taxation Committee
Chair
Pensions Subcommittee



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

The Honorable Ben Barnes, Chair
The Honorable Anne Kaiser, Vice Chair
Appropriations Committee
Maryland House of Delegates
Annapolis, MD 21401

Annapolis Office
Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Suite 3 West
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3575
800-492-7122 Ext. 3575
Karen.LewisYoung@senate.maryland.gov

District Office
253 East Church Street
Frederick, MD 21701
301-662-8520

April 8th, 2026

SB534 - Frederick Community College - Board of Trustees - Meeting and Training Requirements

Chair Barnes, Vice Chair Kaiser, and esteemed members of this committee,

Senate Bill 534 is a Frederick County bill that unanimously passed delegation. It will establish an obligation for transparency and communication for the Board of Trustees at Frederick Community College. This bill will require the Board of Trustees to provide an opportunity for public comment at each of their meetings. It will also require the Board to publish and retain video or audio recordings of each meeting. Additionally, this bill requires board members to undergo training every two years on board governance, responsibilities and other roles.

There are sixteen community colleges in the state, thirteen currently follow these practices to better address their communities. Requiring public comment will ensure the Board has the information it needs to be responsive to its community. Publishing a readily accessible video or audio option also allows for members of the public to be informed and aware of the Board's decisions. More communication from the college leads to successful collaboration and support from the community. By requiring the Board to adopt these standards of transparency and accessibility, Frederick Community College will better meet the needs of its students and faculty. I respectfully request a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen Lewis Young".

Senator Karen Lewis Young

SB 534_HB 839_ Frederick Community College - Boar

Uploaded by: Trudy Tibbals

Position: FAV

SB 534/HB 839: Frederick Community College - Board of Trustees - Meeting and Training Requirements: Please vote to **SUPPORT** this bill.

Dear Appropriations Committee:

I am writing as a resident of Maryland to express my strong support for **SB 534/HB 839**.

This legislation promotes good governance and public trust by establishing reasonable, common-sense standards for the Frederick Community College Board of Trustees:

- It requires the Board to provide an opportunity for **public comment** at each of its meetings.
- It mandates that meetings be **recorded** (video or audio) and that those recordings be maintained in perpetuity for public access.
- It requires each member of the Board to complete **board governance training** at least once every two years.

These requirements are modest, low-cost, and fully aligned with best practices for public bodies. Allowing public comment increases community engagement and accountability. Recording meetings and preserving them ensures transparency so that residents, students, faculty, and taxpayers can review decisions that affect Frederick Community College. Regular governance training helps trustees better understand their fiduciary responsibilities, ethics, open meeting laws, and effective board practices.

Frederick Community College is an important public institution serving students and the broader community. Its Board of Trustees manages significant resources and makes decisions that impact education quality, budgets, and workforce development. Strengthening transparency and trustee preparedness benefits everyone without imposing undue burdens. This is a positive, non-controversial step toward better governance at our community colleges.

I respectfully urge you to **support SB 534/HB 839** and vote in favor of its final passage.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of my perspective regarding this important higher education legislation.

Sincerely,

Trudy Tibbals

Del. Fair Amendment

Uploaded by: Delegate Kris Fair

Position: FWA



SB0534/433729/1

AMENDMENTS
PREPARED
BY THE
DEPT. OF LEGISLATIVE
SERVICES

06 APR 26
12:29:37

BY: Delegate Fair
(To be offered in the Appropriations Committee)

AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 534
(Third Reading File Bill)

On page 2, in line 23, strike "THE" and substitute "EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE"; in the same line, strike "VIDEO OR AUDIO"; in lines 24 and 25, strike "AND ANY MINUTES OF THE BOARD"; and in lines 26 and 28, in each instance, strike "VIDEO".

On page 3, in line 1, strike "TRANSCRIBED VIDEO RECORDING" and substitute "TRANSCRIPTION"; and after line 5, insert:

"(H) ANY MINUTES OF THE BOARD SHALL BE MAINTAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 3 OF THE GENERAL PROVISIONS ARTICLE."

SB534 Reprint w/ Fair Amendment

Uploaded by: Delegate Kris Fair

Position: FWA

SENATE BILL 534

F4

6lr1872
CF HB 839

By: **Frederick County Senators**
Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026
A

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 3, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Frederick Community College – Board of Trustees – Meeting and Training**
3 **Requirements**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing certain public comment requirements and recording
5 requirements for the Board of Community College Trustees for Frederick County;
6 requiring the members of the Board to undergo certain training; and generally
7 relating to the Board of Community College Trustees for Frederick County.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Education
10 Section 16–407
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

13 Preamble

14 WHEREAS, Public comment enables and enhances communication and
15 transparency between decision-making bodies and the community; and

16 WHEREAS, The Frederick County Delegation acknowledges Frederick Community
17 College’s efforts to engage with the public; and

18 WHEREAS, This Act is intended to supplement Frederick Community College’s
19 efforts to engage with the public; now, therefore,

2 REPRINT OF SENATE BILL 534 as amended by SB0534/433729/1 04/06/26 at 12:29 PM

1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
2 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

3 **Article – Education**

4 16–407.

5 (a) The Board of Community College Trustees for Frederick County consists of
6 seven members. Of the members:

7 (1) Each shall be a resident of Frederick County; and

8 (2) Each shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent
9 of the Senate, for a term of 5 years.

10 (b) (1) A member of the Board of Community College Trustees may not serve
11 more than three consecutive 5–year terms.

12 (2) A member of the Frederick County Board of Education may not serve
13 on the Board of Community College Trustees.

14 (c) Each member of the Board is entitled to \$500 a year for expenses.

15 **(D) EACH MEETING OF THE BOARD SHALL INCLUDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR**
16 **PUBLIC COMMENT.**

17 **(E) (1) THE BOARD SHALL MAKE A VIDEO OR AUDIO RECORDING OF EACH**
18 **MEETING OF THE BOARD.**

19 **(2) THE BOARD SHALL MAKE A RECORDING REQUIRED UNDER**
20 **PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC ON THE BOARD’S**
21 **WEBSITE WITHOUT CHARGE AND, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, WITHIN 2**
22 **BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE RECORDING IS MADE.**

23 **(F) (1) THE EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE BOARD**
24 **SHALL MAINTAIN IN PERPETUITY A VIDEO OR AUDIO**
25 **RECORDING REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION AND ANY MINUTES**
26 **OF THE BOARD.**

27 **(2) THE BOARD MAY TRANSCRIBE A VIDEO RECORDING REQUIRED**
28 **UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION IF:**

29 **(i) THE VIDEO RECORDING HAS BEEN MAINTAINED FOR AT**
LEAST 5 YEARS; AND

3 REPRINT OF SENATE BILL 534 as amended by SB0534/433729/1 04/06/26 at 12:29 PM

1 (II) ~~THE TRANSCRIBED VIDEO RECORDING~~ TRANSCRIPTION IS MAINTAINED IN
2 PERPETUITY.

3 (G) AS PART OF ONGOING TRAINING FOR BOARD MEMBERS AND AT LEAST
4 EVERY 2 YEARS, THE BOARD MEMBERS SHALL UNDERGO TRAINING SPECIFIC TO
5 BOARD GOVERNANCE, STRUCTURE, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND ROLES.

(H) ANY MINUTES OF THE BOARD SHALL BE MAINTAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 3
OF THE GENERAL PROVISIONS ARTICLE.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
7 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

XSB0534_MACC_OPP.pdf

Uploaded by: Drew Jabin

Position: UNF

House Appropriations Committee

April 8, 2026

SB 534 - Frederick Community College - Board of Trustees - Meeting and Training Requirements

Position: Oppose

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), representing Maryland's 16 community colleges, strongly opposes **SB 534**, as amended. While the bill has been modified, it continues to impose unnecessary and prescriptive statutory requirements on a single community college that are more appropriately addressed through local governance and existing law.

Frederick Community College already has policies and practices in place that support public engagement, transparency, and board development. The amended bill acknowledges and seeks to "supplement" these existing efforts, underscoring that the legislation is not addressing a gap in practice, but rather codifying processes that are already functioning effectively at the institutional level. As such, the bill remains unnecessary.

Community college boards of trustees are appointed governing bodies responsible for establishing policies and practices that support the effective governance of their institutions. These boards operate under existing State transparency requirements, including the Maryland Open Meetings Act, and already have the authority to determine appropriate procedures related to public comment, meeting recordings, and board training. Mandating these processes in statute for a single institution undermines the principle of local governance and sets an unhelpful precedent for future piecemeal policymaking.

The bill also continues to impose ongoing administrative requirements, including recording and maintaining meetings in perpetuity and posting recordings within a specified timeframe. While these requirements may appear minor, they create operational obligations that should remain within the discretion of the institution and its governing board, which are best positioned to determine appropriate and sustainable practices. Community colleges across Maryland regularly adopt policies that reflect the needs and expectations of their local communities. Matters such as public comment, meeting procedures, and governance training are appropriately determined at the institutional level, allowing boards to remain responsive, flexible, and aligned with best practices in governance and accreditation.

MACC supports strong governance, transparency, and public engagement. However, SB 534 continues to impose unnecessary statutory mandates on a single college in an area that is already effectively governed through existing law and institutional practice. Accordingly, MACC urges the Committee to issue an **UNFAVORABLE** report on **SB 534**.

Please contact Brad Phillips (bphillips@mdacc.org) or Drew Jabin (djabin@mdacc.org) with questions.