

**Senate Testimony: SB0306 – Education – Board of Community College Trustees for
Baltimore County – Membership
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committees
Submitted by: Richard A. Scheper, Ph.D., Chair of the Board of Trustees
Community College of Baltimore County
February 10, 2026**

Position: Support

Good afternoon. I am Richard Scheper, proud Chair of the Board of CCBC. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding the necessary update to §16-402 of the Education Article governing the Board of Trustees for the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC). The expansion of the Baltimore County Council from seven to nine districts requires a statutory adjustment to the structure of the CCBC Board.

Currently CCBC has a 15-member Board composed of one at-large trustee and 14 trustees appointed from “the 7 councilmanic districts in Baltimore County, 2 from each district.” With the transition to nine districts, this formula would result in a 19-member Board unless amended.

On behalf of the Trustees of the CCBC, we ask the Senate to support a more appropriate and effective Board size of **11 trustees**, still providing representation for all Councilmanic Districts.

CCBC already has the largest community college board in Maryland at 15 members—double the statewide default of seven. Increasing to 19 would move CCBC’s Board even further out of alignment with peer institutions and state governance norms. Larger boards are widely recognized as less efficient, more difficult to manage, and contrary to recent state efforts to streamline boards and commissions.

Shifting to one trustee from each of the nine Council districts, plus **two at-large members**, produces an 11-member Board consistent with the structure of other large Maryland jurisdictions, including Anne Arundel, Montgomery, and Prince George’s Counties. This approach offers several advantages: **Improved Functionality, Smooth Transition, Enhanced Representation, and Consistency with State Practices**. To achieve this outcome, we respectfully request that the General Assembly amend the statute as follows:

1. **Reduce the board size** from 15 members to **11 members**.
2. **Increase at-large representation** from one seat to **two seats**.
3. **Update district-based representation** to reflect the nine councilmanic districts, with **one trustee from each district**.
4. **Include enabling language for a phased implementation**, allowing current trustees to serve out their appointed terms as well as a possible 2nd term.

This adjustment is necessary, timely, and fully aligned with statewide governance standards. An 11-member Board will strengthen CCBC's ability to serve more than 50,000 students annually, while ensuring that the Board remains representative, effective, and responsive to the needs of Baltimore County.

Thank you for your consideration and for your ongoing support of Maryland's community colleges.

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