

March 4, 2021

**Senate Bill 746 - Education - Community Colleges - Collective Bargaining
SUPPORT**

Dear Distinguished Members of the Finance Committee:

I am Adam Robinson, Maryland English Adjunct Professor with 16 years and over 800 credit hours taught at AACC, PGCC, BCCC, CCBC, and Howard Community Colleges combined. I strongly support SB 746 - Education - Community Colleges - Collective Bargaining because it is *urgently* needed to correct the shortcomings of Maryland's community collegiate academic institutions, as well as incredibly long overdue. Community College Instructors and Professors *deserve* the right for representation, a right other public sector workers covet.

Although Covid-19 has impacted all of the economy, it has especially impacted Community College Faculty. I have taken out unemployment insurance for the first time ever this past year. Collective Bargaining would create stability and structure for adjunct professors. More stability and structure would allow adjuncts the opportunity to stay in their residencies (their actual homes, not just their jobs), not require them to change their jobs, or move out of state. Passage of the bill will allow these workers to ensure where Middle States academic credit agencies and the legislature have not lived up to their promise to support these basic working rights. Middle States has failed for over 20 years to get these same collegiate institutions to fulfill their mandates of having at least half of the classes taught by full time faculty. The students, the community, the state, and United States' academic dominance has suffered, and there is no excuse. These same Adjunct Professors, who in some cases teach over 90% of classes on campus, are more worried about job security, the whims of their supervisors, work conditions, and overall treatment. Student success should be all of our primary concern, but I remind you that faculty working conditions are student's learning conditions. Anyone telling the Committee otherwise is mistaken or possibly more concerned with keeping the status quo. To protect students, and allow them the best education possible, protect faculty and pass SB 746.

This is the year to pass this legislation. I ask that you allow our voices to be heard. This bill's passage is necessary for Maryland's and U.S. academic prowess. It is necessary for safety, and it ensures a right already privileged to most of the other public sector workers in Maryland. **I ask that you vote "Yes" on SB 746 and strongly encourage a favorable committee report.**

Thank you for your consideration,

Adam Robinson