

March 4, 2021

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

Dear Members of the Finance Committee:

I am Susan Moger, an adjunct instructor at Anne Arundel Community College in Arnold, Maryland. I support bill SB746 –Education – Community Colleges – Collective Bargaining. I deserve the right to decide whether I want to be represented by a union. Community College employees should have the same right that other public service workers enjoy.

Since 2008, I have taught classes for Anne Arundel Community College at several Senior Centers in the county—South County in Edgewater, O’Malley in Odenton, and Pascal in Glen Burnie. My students in these classes range in age from 65 to 95. Because of Covid-19 the county Senior Centers have been closed since last March and the valuable social and nutritional support they offer has disappeared or changed dramatically.

Like other online classes for Seniors, my autobiographical and creative writing classes during the pandemic have been a crucial lifeline for many county seniors isolated at home. In virtual class, those able to navigate computer learning via Zoom, have found that sharing, writing and commenting on others’ work is as sustaining and uplifting as it was in our face-to-face classes. Our format is the same, but the students’ writing often reflects fears and uncertainties of life in a pandemic.

My adjunct colleagues and I are providing valuable services to students of all ages in community colleges during this pandemic. We have made, and will continue to make, virtual learning successful and rewarding for our students. As we did before Covid-19, we continue to spend our own money to enhance student experiences. We will be a critical asset in the post-pandemic evolution of Maryland’s Community Colleges. But without Collective Bargaining we have no input in establishing the terms and conditions of our contracts or working conditions. Collective Bargaining means we can negotiate commitments related to compensation, job security, professional development, improved health and wellness, and more.

Collective bargaining legislation urgently needs to be passed this year so that decisions about Maryland’s Community Colleges during and after the pandemic will include the committed, informed, and passionate voices of Community College adjunct faculty.

I ask you to vote yes on SB 746 and strongly urge a favorable committee report. Sincerely,

Susan Moger, Adjunct Instructor