



Louise Ndovie
Montgomery College student
Testimony in Support of HB 598
Higher Education-Transfer Platform-Established (Transfer with Success Act 2.0)
House Appropriations Committee
February 22, 2022

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Louise Ndovie. I am a Rockville resident and a student at Montgomery College.

I am here to ask you to support HB 598—Transfer with Success Act 2.0.

I am studying social sciences and health.

I chose MC because of the high quality faculty and the great programs. Additionally, getting my associate's degree at MC makes the total cost of my college education so much more affordable. When I finish at MC this spring, I know I will be well prepared for the next step in my education journey.

I hope to transfer to the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP) to earn a bachelor's degree in psychology. My goal is to become a clinical psychologist and work in Montgomery County.

As I complete my courses this semester, I am in the middle of taking steps to transfer. The transfer process can be overwhelming. The current system is hard to use. I am uncertain whether the information is up to date. This makes me worry about whether UMCP will accept my credits and/or my courses. And, I have to worry about this while I complete the admissions applications.

Students need certainty that we can attend our community college and easily get that next degree. That means we need an easy and seamless transfer process. I know I cannot afford to waste money. It is frustrating to think that once I get through the admissions process I could have to re-take a course that I have already taken at Montgomery College. This will cost me more money. And, the price at UMCP will be more expensive.

Seamless transfer will save me time on my way to a bachelor's degree. If I am forced to retake courses at a transfer institution, it takes away from the time I could be taking other classes—

what a huge barrier. Students, like me, want to get through college quickly so we can work— to help our families and get started in a career.

Seamless transfer will help keep students motivated to complete their associate's degree and keep on a path to earn a bachelor's degree. It is discouraging, honestly, to think that four-year institutions do not value the time and effort spent on some courses at a two-year college. When a student loses hard-earned credits during transfer, I can easily see how a student might feel like a bachelor's degree just is not attainable—and they leave school altogether.

Please support HB598 to help make it easier to transfer, so more students like me, can earn an AA degree from MC and go on to earn a bachelor's degree without extra time or expense.

Thank you.