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RI0005
Maryland Higher Education Commission
Community College Facilities Grant Program - Capital

**Testimony of Dr. James D. Fielder, Jr., Secretary of Higher Education, to the
House Appropriations Subcommittee for Capital Budget and the
Senate Budget and Taxation Subcommittee for Capital Budget**

March 7 & 12, 2019

Go Bond Recommended Actions

1. Approve the fiscal 2020 allowance of \$74.0 million for the Community College Construction Grant Program.

MHEC Response: MHEC concurs with the recommended action.

2. Approve the fiscal 2020 allowance of \$5.5 million for the Garrett College – Community Education and Performing Arts Center miscellaneous grant program.

MHEC Response: MHEC concurs with the recommended action.

3. Approve the preauthorization for the Community College Construction Grant Program for \$60.3 million in fiscal 2021.

MHEC Response: MHEC concurs with the recommended action.

4. Reduce the preauthorization to reflect a State obligation to provide 50% of total funding for the Garrett College – Community Education and Performing Arts Center miscellaneous grant project.

MHEC Response: MHEC opposes the recommended action. The decision to remove this project from the Community College Facilities Grant Program was made by the Administration in recognition of the project's significance to the community at large. The Department of Budget and Management will deliver a separate statement to address the opposition to this recommendation.

5. Approve the preauthorization of \$31.2 million for the Community College Construction Grant Program in fiscal 2022.

MHEC Response: MHEC concurs with the recommended action.

6. Approve the preauthorization of \$8.2 million for the Community College Construction Grant Program in fiscal 2023.

MHEC Response: MHEC concurs with the recommended action.