



Testimony & Response to Department of Legislative Services Analysis

Members of the subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today.

I am joined by Joseph Sergi, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, and Frank Principe, Senior Vice President & Chief Government Affairs and External Relations Officer.

I also want to thank our analyst, Kelly Norton, for her guidance and expertise.

Before I begin, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the more than 56,000 UMGC students each year—many of whom call Maryland home—who serve or have served in the armed forces around the world.

Serving Maryland

More than 100,000 UMGC alumni currently live in Maryland, and some 30,500 Marylanders attended UMGC in FY23—a number that continues to grow—while more than 5,300 earned a UMGC degree.

UMGC enrolls more Maryland community college transfer students than any other institution in the state, and through its Maryland Completion Scholarship, allows eligible community college graduates to complete a UMGC bachelor's degree for \$12,000 or less! More than 15,000 of these scholarships have been awarded since the program began in 2014—and more than 7,700 recipients have already earned a degree.

Maryland last year, more than 3,300 students enrolled in UMGC classes as a result of such partnerships.

As technological advances create jobs and require skills that didn't exist five years ago, UMGC is evolving rapidly as well, providing microcredentials that can ultimately stack into traditional degree programs while providing certification that opens new job pathways in shorter amounts of time for those who wish to seize imminent opportunities. More than 14 state governors, including Governor Wes Moore here in Maryland, have now committed to opening state jobs to those who can demonstrate required skills, regardless of whether they have completed a degree, and we are building skills-based

