

Musicians' Association of Metropolitan Baltimore

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Local 40-543,
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Michael Decker
President

Mary Plaine
Secretary-Treasurer

February 18, 2020

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 434

Labor and Employment – Occupational Safety and Health – Heat Stress Standards
February 20, 2020

TO: Hon. Delores Kelley, Chair, and members of the Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Mary C. Plaine, Secretary-Treasurer, The Musicians' Association of Metropolitan Baltimore, Local 40-543, American Federation of Musicians (AFM)

The Musicians' Association of Metropolitan Baltimore supports SB 434 and asks that the Senate Finance Committee vote to support it and send it on to the full chamber for passage.

Because Federal OSHA has no regulations that require employers to protect their employees from heat stress, SB 434 will enable the Maryland General Assembly to direct Maryland OSHA to promulgate a heat stress rule which will require employers to implement heat stress plans on the worksite, including training, paid breaks, providing water, monitoring worker exposure to heat, and maintaining records on heat injuries and precautions taken to prevent them.

Maryland's summers are hot and getting hotter. Employees who work outdoors – and indoors in non-air-conditioned spaces – are exposed to excessive heat – temperatures that threaten health and life. Thousands of Marylanders are at risk of serious illnesses such as heat stroke, heat exhaustion, heat cramps, heat rash, and even death. The passage of SB 434 will help protect employees from these illnesses and possible death.

Industries with workers at risk include but are not limited to Transportation, Roadwork, Landscaping, Sanitation, Manufacturing, Commercial Laundries, Telecommunications, Airline Ground Service Workers, Construction, Firefighting.

Again, Local 40-543 urges members of the Senate Finance Committee to vote FOR SB 434.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary C. Plaine".

Mary C. Plaine
Secretary-Treasurer

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