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**To:** Members of The House Judiciary Committee

**From:** Family & Juvenile Law Section Council (FJLSC)  
by Ilene Glickman, Esquire and Daniel Renart, Esquire

**Date:** February 12, 2020

**Subject:** **House Bill 647:**  
Child Support – Reporting of Employment Information

**Position:** **SUPPORT**

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The Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) FJLSC **supports House Bill 647 – Child Support – Reporting of Employment Information.**

This testimony is submitted on behalf of the Family and Juvenile Law Section Council (“FJLSC”) of the Maryland State Bar Association (“MSBA”). The FJLSC is the formal representative of the Family and Juvenile Law Section of the MSBA, which promotes the objectives of the MSBA by improving the administration of justice in the field of family and juvenile law and, at the same time, tries to bring together the members of the MSBA who are concerned with family and juvenile laws and in reforms and improvements in such laws through legislation or otherwise. The FJLSC is charged with the general supervision and control of the affairs of the Section and authorized to act for the Section in any way in which the Section itself could act. The Section has over 1,200 attorney members.

HB647 is a sensible solution of consolidating employment information and reporting requirements relating to child support into the Family Law Article. This proposed legislation transfers specific provisions from the Labor and Employment Article to the Family Law Article.

HB647 defines employees to include independent contractors and defines earnings to include payments received by independent contractors and reported on their 1099s so that it can be used to calculate child support. This bill also requires each employer to provide to the Secretary the employee information, when they started and stopped working with each employer, outlines the time frame of when to provide this information, and how to report this information. This bill further defines the penalties the employer will face if it does not comply reporting this required information to the Secretary. Lastly, this bill also requires the employer



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to notify the Secretary of any layoffs of at least 25 employees for the same reason or at the same time.

The passage of this legislation will help with continuity of child support obligations even when child support obligors switch employers and fail to report their new employment information. HB647 provides the ability to obtain information needed for the proper calculation of child support to be obtained and provides clear guidelines for employers in this regard. This legislation will result in a positive outcome for both the State and children throughout Maryland.

For the reason(s) stated above, the MSBA **supports House Bill 647 and urges a favorable committee report.**

Should you have any questions, please contact Ilene Glickman by e-mail at [ilene@lawhj.com](mailto:ilene@lawhj.com) or by telephone at (410) 821-8718.