

Maryland Association of Nurse Anesthetists

February 9, 2021

**SB 486 - Labor and Employment - Employment Standards During an  
Emergency (Maryland Essential Workers' Protection Act)**

Before the Senate Finance Committee

**Position: Favorable**

Dear Chair Kelley

The Maryland Association of Nurse Anesthetists (MANA) strongly supports SB 486 - Labor and Employment - Employment Standards During an Emergency (Maryland Essential Workers' Protection Act).

This legislation provides vital protections to Maryland workers that risk illness and financial degradation so that our society continues to normally function.

We fully support the requirement that all workers have the necessary personal protective equipment during this unprecedented pandemic and healthcare crisis. Finally, the bill's requirement to provide bereavement leave and reimbursement for out-of-pocket healthcare expenses is fair and equitable. Maryland healthcare providers struggle every day with employment related stress stemming from COVID 19, they should not have to also worry about the personal financial stresses brought about by solely from COVID 19.

**We respectfully request a favorable report on SB 486.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Dy

MANA President