Testimony in Support of HB 8 "Labor and Employment – Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program – Establishment (Time to Care Act of 2022)" House Economic Matters Committee February 15, 2022

FAVORABLE

TO: Chair Kelley, Vice Chair Feldman, and members of the Finance Committee FROM: {Your Full Name}

My name is Daniel Golombek. I am a resident of District 11. I am submitting this testimony *in support of HB 8*, the Time to Care Act of 2022, which would establish a paid family and medical leave insurance program.

I was lucky enough that my employer always offered a generous paid sick leave on top of vacation. This leave was later extended to cover family reasons. This benefit with such positive impact and overwhelm support is not enjoyed by many other Marylanders.

The Time to Care Act will help address the economic hardship, stress, and other burdens that come into play when caring for new babies, loved ones with serious health conditions, or yourself. Employees' ability to take up to 12 weeks of paid leave will help Maryland families meet their caregiving, employment, and financial needs and commitments while caring for their family.

No Marylander should have to choose between the job they need and the family they love when a medical crisis strikes or a new child is welcomed into the home, which is why we need comprehensive paid family and medical leave in Maryland.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB 8.

Thank you,
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