



Maryland Association of LOCAL MANAGEMENT BOARDS

February 1, 2023

SUPPORT – SB172 - Employment for Minors - Opportunities for Work

Dear Senators:

On behalf of the Maryland Association of Local Management Boards, I am writing in support of SB172. Local Management Boards in each county and jurisdiction in the State of Maryland conduct needs assessments of their communities. One of our focuses is to work with youth who may have become disconnected from opportunities and youth who are disproportionately involved in the juvenile justice system, creating barriers to economic opportunities. Any legislation that can promote opportunities and reduce barriers to employment is important. Our goal is to connect them to potential career and job opportunities as well as job training initiatives enabling support for themselves economically.

SB172 will allow for a minor with a work permit to have their information shared with other agencies for more opportunities to advance. Disconnected youth are often struggling with multiple family and economic issues that act as barriers to success. They may need the help of multiple agencies to address each issue. This collaboration among and between agencies is so important. Sharing relevant information, with permission from the youth and their family, will give youth opportunities early in life to move towards success.

SB172 also promotes youth apprenticeships to prepare them for well-paying careers in a variety of businesses. We urge you to support SB172 to give youth more opportunities to work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "P M Brown".

Pamela M. Brown, PhD
Legislative Chair
Maryland Association of Local Management Boards