

HB 1005

Correctional Officers' Retirement System – Membership

Position: Favorable

My name is Ikeia Cornish and I am a Direct Care Assistant II-CI at the Eastern Shore Hospital Center in Cambridge, MD. I am also the President of AFSCME Local 770, representing state employees on the Upper Shore. We are in support of HB 1005 and thank Del. McCaskill for sponsoring this important bill for us.

Direct Care Assistants-CI are often faced with long work hours, heavy work loads and staffing shortages. I'd also like to add that the environment in which we work can be very hostile at times. Over the years I've witnessed many coworkers retire after 30 years of service and have very little quality of life left to enjoy. They are experiencing dementia, cancer, other health conditions and sometimes death.

After years of dedication and providing care for others they/we deserve to enjoy the fruits of our labor. I am asking that you please grant us the privilege of 20-year retirement like our brothers and sisters at Clifton P. Perkins. We work with the same clientele and are faced with the same challenges.

Ikeia Cornish
President
AFSCME 770