

**International  
Association of  
Machinists and  
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-2687

Area Code 301-967-4500

February 9, 2024

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the 600,000 active and retired members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM), **I strongly urge passage of the Library Workers Empowerment Act (HB609/SB591), which would give thousands of Maryland's unorganized public library workers a fair and consistent pathway to form a union and collectively bargain, if they wish.**

The current Maryland state law does not provide all public library workers collective bargaining rights. In the past, this has been handled on a county-by-county basis, requiring the state legislature to repeatedly contemplate similar legislation. Public library workers should not be prohibited from pursuing collective bargaining rights simply because the work in a jurisdiction in which legislation has not passed.

The IAM, which is based in Upper Marlboro, MD, champions workers' rights, giving them a voice in the workplace and involvement in the decision-making process. We proudly represent the over 400 employees of the Baltimore County Public Library (BCPL) System.

The U.S. Constitution provides workers the right to form a union; passing the Library Workers Empowerment Act ensures a path for them to access that right.

**Again – I urge passage of the bipartisan Library Workers Empowerment Act (HB609/SB591)**

Sincerely,

Hasan Solomon  
National Legislative and Political Director  
International Association of Machinists and  
Aerospace Workers, AFL-CIO

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