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**HB 1402 - Montgomery County – State’s Attorney’s Office Personnel – Application  
of County Personnel Laws and Collective Bargaining MC 12–24**

**Appropriations Committee  
March 12, 2024**

**FAVORABLE**

AFSCME Council 3 supports HB 1402. This legislation from the Montgomery County Delegation enables collective bargaining rights for eligible employees of the Montgomery County State’s Attorney’s Office.

AFSCME Council 3 represents 45,000 state, county, and municipal employees across Maryland and advocates for the right for all public employees to organize and bargain collectively. Collective bargaining helps to create a fair and balanced work environment by establishing clear and unbiased standards for employment practices. Recently, attorneys and core staff at the statewide office of the Maryland Public Defender (OPD) organized with AFSCME and won collective bargaining rights. As a result, AFSCME members in the OPD now have a voice in determining their pay, benefits, and working conditions.

We stand in solidarity with the workers at the Montgomery County State’s Attorney’s Office who are organizing for these same rights. We encourage the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1402.