

Written Testimony Submitted for the House Appropriations Committee
Testimony of Stephanie Wade, member, AFSCME Maryland
HB 260 – AN ACT concerning State Personnel – Collective Bargaining – Supervisory
Employees
January 26th, 2024

SUPPORT

Dear Chair Barnes, Vice-Chair Chang, and Members of the Appropriations Committee:

My name is Stephanie Wade, and I am a Field Supervisor with DPSCS in the Parole and Probation division. For over twenty years, I have served the state of Maryland as a state worker. I have seen changes come to my department as well as to the state as a whole. I have seen what can happen when employees stand together for positive change, and as a supervisor, I want to do that as well.

I face a number of health and safety issues in my job. Leaks, lack of security, and mold presence have all contributed to low morale. The setting in which you work has a dramatic effect on how you view the work and yourself. It is challenging to feel respected when the climate you find yourself working in is so clearly not. It makes employees less productive, less invested in their work, and less willing to call their job a career. I want to change that, and I want to bring a solution to my colleagues that also want to see positive change here in the state. We can do that through collective bargaining. We can stand together and share the challenges we face, the solutions we need, and the future we want. But we can only do all of that if this legislation passes. So please support HB 260 and give supervisors the rights they deserve.

Stephanie Wade
Field Supervisor
Aberdeen, DPSCS