

Written Testimony Submitted for the House Appropriations Committee
Testimony of Lyndon Snowden
HB 609 –The Library Workers Empowerment Act
February 13th, 2024

SUPPORT

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

My name is Lyndon Snowden, and I am a Building Care Technician at the Eastport Annapolis branch of the Anne Arundel County Public Library system. As a building care tech, I ensure that the grounds and facilities of my branch are safe and functional. I keep things clean, beautiful, and accessible for the patrons that think of their library as a second home.

It is important for us to have a voice in our libraries, because our libraries are relied upon by many people for their services. But for me, our library is also relied upon for a living. As the cost of living has risen, it has become more difficult to stay in the place that I have called home, Maryland. I have a job to do, and I know that. So each day I get up and make sure that the branch is ready for the people that need it. But I want to have a way to make sure that the system is also ready for me. I want to be able to advocate on my own behalf, as well as on behalf of our patrons. I am asking you to pass this bill, the Library Workers Empowerment Act, HB 609, and to empower us with a voice at the table. We all want our libraries to stay open and safe, and we need this to make that happen.

Lyndon Snowden
Building Care Technician
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