

To the House Economic Matters Committee,

My name is Johanna Barrantes and I am submitting testimony asking for a favorable decision on behalf of bill SB0085.

Though I have not been part of any worker coop organization I still believe worker cooperatives are a valuable model for organizing and building just economies. Cooperatives have demonstrated that shared ownership can lead to more democratic decision making, better worker satisfaction and many times surpasses the average lifespan of a small business. Marylanders deserve to have this option in the most accessible way possible when considering a business model.

I urge you to pass Senate Bill 0085, as unanimously passed by Senate.

Thank you for your consideration.

Johanna Barrantes