



**Bill No:** SB 354—Montgomery County and Prince George's County - Rent Court Workforce Solutions Pilot Program

**Committee:** Environment and Transportation

**Date:** 2/14/2024

**Position:** Favorable

The Apartment and Office Building Association of Metropolitan Washington (AOBA) represents members that own or manage more than 23 million square feet of commercial office space and 133,000 apartment rental units in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

Senate Bill 354 establishes the Rent Court Workforce Solutions Pilot program in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties to provide individuals facing evictions for failure to pay rent to receive resources and information on workforce development. The bill requires the State to appropriate \$100,000 for both County Executive offices for the pilot program.

AOBA supports this well-intentioned legislation that focuses on professional development for individuals who may lack jobs and are facing eviction. This bill is necessary to provide residents with the tools needed to be successful and have stability in their lives by possessing a job to maintain their standard of living. AOBA members understand how traumatic the eviction process can be, and this bill opens an avenue to identify and assist those residents who truly need support and employment opportunities to take care of themselves and their families.

**For these reasons AOBA requests a favorable report on SB 354.**

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