

Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1300

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Proudly representing the transit workers of the MTA!



HB 233 - Labor and Employment - Mandatory Meetings on Religious or Political Matters - Employee Attendance and Participation (Maryland Worker Freedom Act)

Favorable

House Economic Matters Committee

January 30th, 2025

ATU Local 1300 represents over 3,000 transit workers at the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA). This includes bus operators, bus mechanics, rail operators, rail maintenance workers, and more. Our members keep Maryland moving every day.

Captive audience meetings are a violation of a worker's freedom of speech. They are a form of compelled political activity that violates the constitution. We were glad to see that the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) banned captive audience meetings as an unfair labor practice that is prohibited by federal law. Unfortunately, with a changing NLRB likely to occur in the next few months, these protections will be rolled back and workers will be subjected to mandatory political and religious meetings held by their employers, unless the Maryland General Assembly intervenes.

We urge the committee to issue a favorable report on this bill.