

HB0233_RichardKaplowitz_FAV
1/30/2025

Richard Keith Kaplowitz
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TESTIMONY ON HB#0233 - FAVORABLE

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

TO: Chair Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby, and members of the Economic Matters Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard K. Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#0233, Labor and Employment - Mandatory Meetings on Religious or Political Matters - Employee Attendance and Participation (Maryland Worker Freedom Act)

This bill will protect employees and potential employees from tactics used by an employer to force the religious or political views of that employer to be forced upon those unwitting members of their staff.

The intention of the bill is to prohibit employers from taking certain adverse actions against an employee or applicant for employment because the employee or applicant declines to attend or participate in employer-sponsored meetings during which the employer communicates the opinion of the employer regarding religious matters or political matters.

Just because you are employed by someone doesn't confer the right to proselytize to you on matters of faith or political affiliation. This bill will protect employees and potential employers from being forced to accept that conduct.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB#0233.