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Appropriations Committee



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 3rd, 2020

HB 1134 – Circuit Court and District Court of Maryland Employees – Collective Bargaining

Honorable Chair McIntosh, Vice Chair Jackson and Members of the Committee:

I am happy to introduce to you House Bill 1134 Circuit Court and District Court of Maryland Employees – Collective Bargaining. This bill would provide the choice of collective bargaining to employees in the court system of Maryland. This bill would allow employee in the Circuit and District Courts to file a petition for an election of a union to represent them. If a sufficient number of employees sign up, then an election would be authorized. All eligible employees would be entitled to a vote.

This legislation specifically addresses clerical, administrative, constabulary, maintenance and housekeeping employees – it does not included judges. These are all employees who could actually help improve not only working conditions, but also make organized suggestions of ways to improve services. This is important because the employees are on the front lines of interacting with the public and carrying out the policies of the courts.

This bill is fair. It allows employees the opportunity to have a voice in determining their working conditions. It is modeled after a process that has worked well for state employees. I urge you to support this bill by giving these employees the right to have a democratic vote on whether they want to negotiate, and if they want to negotiate, who will represent them.

Thank you for your time and consideration of HB 1134.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Young".

Pat Young, 44B