

SARA N. LOVE
Legislative District 16
Montgomery County

Environment and Transportation
Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 210
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3454 · 301-858-3454
800-492-7122 Ext. 3454
Sara.Love@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HB 620

**Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport – Security Screening
Checkpoint – Charitable Donations**

Chair Barve, Vice Chair Stein, members of the Environment & Transportation Committee. HB 620 would place donation boxes at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport.

In Fiscal Year 2018, travelers left behind \$960,105.49 in currency at airport checkpoints nationwide. Rather than giving that money to TSA, wouldn't it be nice to have the option to donate your spare change?

These charity boxes are in many airports: Denver, CO; Milwaukee, WI; Phoenix, AZ; Columbus, OH; Kent County, MI; and JFK in New York. In addition, airports around the world have them: Nassau, Paris, Dubai, Belgium, South Africa, Bangkok, Vietnam, Australia, England, Canada, South Korea, Germany & Sweden.

Denver was one of the first airports in the U.S. to have collection containers at several checkpoints. The money travelers deposit there goes to Denver's Road Home, an organization that helps address homelessness. Since its inception in 2013, Denver has collected, on average, \$85,739 per year.

Delegate Parrott and I spoke over the interim and discussed various ideas of where to send the funds. In the end, we agreed to support the bill as it passed the Senate last year. The monies collected would go to supplement the assistance given by the Maryland Department of Disabilities for their Housing Transition Fund. MDOD has a number of programs that help people with disabilities who have a low-income pay for rental housing in their community.

Please give HB 620 a favorable report.