

**Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 388
Circuit Courts and District Court of Maryland Employees –
Collective Bargaining**

**Senate Finance Committee
February 20, 2020
1:00 PM**

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Government Relations**

The Maryland State Education Association supports Senate Bill 388, authorizing clerical, administrative, and maintenance and housekeeping employees of the circuit and district court of Maryland to collectively bargain.

MSEA represents 75,000 educators and school employees who work in Maryland's public schools, teaching and preparing our 896,837 students for careers and jobs of the future. MSEA also represents 39 local affiliates in every county across the state of Maryland, and our parent affiliate is the 3 million-member National Education Association (NEA).

Maryland has long celebrated the freedom of association and the role of organized labor. The strength of organized labor is critical to protecting workers, ensuring quality, and maintaining fairness, safety, and competitive wages in the workplace. Strong employee associations are able to solve problems and represent the needs and concerns of employees and the community to benefit everyone.

Because MSEA members know that good government comes from fair and just employment practices and advocacy by and for employees, **we urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 388.**