



AMERICAN FEDERATION OF
STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL
EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO

Local Office
615 Frederick Rd
Catonsville Maryland 21230

**SB 434 - Labor and Employment - Occupational Safety and Health - Heat Stress Standards
Thursday, February 20th, 2020**

Senate Finance Committee

FAVORABLE

David C. Basler, AFSCME Local 434 Executive Board Member

Senator Kelley & Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am asking that you approve of this bill as we seek guaranteed protections for Maryland from Hot environments workers in the workplace.

I have worked in the Grounds Department for Baltimore County Public Schools for over 35 years. In this time working outside in all types and extremes of conditions I have witnessed firsthand the stress on folks working outside extreme heat effects individuals differently. People handle these conditions differently and sometimes the same conditions effect people differently than they previously experienced.

When I first joined the BCPs Grounds, the standard applied by the Manager was when the temperature rose above 90 “take a ten-minute break every hour”; currently it’s “Be Safe Stay Hydrated”; “make sure you drink plenty of water”. These are all great ideas. What’s lacking is a industry wide standard for Employee Safety.

Please approve this Bill, give our employees the protection they deserve.

Thank you again for your considerations,

David C. Basler
AFSCME Local 434 Executive Board Member