



Testimony of Veronica Stanley, MSPH, CIH, CSP, CESP
on

Behalf of the

Chesapeake Local Section of the American Industrial

Hygiene Association® (AIHA)

Before the

Maryland Senate Finance Committee

In Support of Senate Bill 434

February 20, 2020

Senator Delores G. Kelley
Chair, Finance Committee
Maryland State Senate

Senator Brian J. Feldman
Vice Chair, Finance Committee
Maryland State Senate

Good Afternoon Chairwoman Kelley, Vice-Chair Feldman, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Veronica Stanley, and I am resident of Brookeville, Maryland, living in District 14. I am a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH), Certified Safety Professional (CSP), and a Certified Electrical Safety Compliance Professional (CESCP). Today, I am here representing the Chesapeake Local Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA).

The Chesapeake Local Section, representing industrial hygienists throughout Maryland, supports Senate Bill 434, and encourages your committee to approve the legislation.

This bill is both timely and needed. Heat stress is a significant problem in Maryland and throughout the nation. In 2018 alone, approximately 100 workers in Maryland had to miss work due to a heat-related illness. SB 434 would require Maryland to issue a heat stress standard that is developed with the meaningful participation of employees and employee representatives and would be tailored to address the specific heat hazards present at worksites. Employers would be required to provide annual training and education to employees on how to recognize and reduce the risks of heat stress, as well as how to identify the signs and symptoms heat-related illness and respond when emergencies occur. The bill also contains important record keeping provisions and employee rights protections.

In closing, on behalf of AIHA's Chesapeake Local Section, I encourage the committee to approve Senate Bill 434, as it would make important progress on heat stress prevention for Marylanders. Thank you for your time.