



**SEIU MARYLAND & DC STATE COUNCIL**  
1410 Bush Street, Suite F, Baltimore, Maryland 21230

Testimony in **SUPPORT of House Bill 1237**  
Memorandum of Understanding for State Personnel  
House Appropriations Committee  
February 24, 2021  
1:00 PM

Presented to: Maggie McIntosh, Chairman  
By: Terry Cavanagh, Executive Director

SEIU Maryland & DC State Council urges a **Favorable Report to HB1237.**

SEIU is the largest union in North America. We unite workers in health care, public service, including public education, and property services to improve lives and the services we provide. Half of our 2,000,000 members work in the public sector. We represent over 50,000 workers in the Maryland/DC/Virginia region.

A basic tenet of good-faith negotiations is that either side has the ability to put an agreement into place. It may have been assumed that Maryland governors would include in their budgets what it would take to fund agreements they had reached, reached previous to their term of office, or been determined through binding arbitration.

Since that has not always been the case, we support amending the Maryland Constitution and requiring governors to include adequate funding for the purpose of funding these agreements and decisions that are binding on the state.

If a governor DOES NOT include proper funding, it does raise questions regarding honest negotiations. HB 1237 appears to be a simple and effective way to deal with what we hope is a rare approach to good-faith, honest negotiations.

**We urge a Favorable Report on HB 1237.** Thank you.