



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

January 27, 2021

Committee: House Economic Matters Committee

Bill: HB 73 – State and Local Government and Private Employers – Teleworking

Position: Oppose

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League opposes HB 73, which would mandate local governments adopt a teleworking policy that maximizes the number of eligible employees to participate.

Local governments are already utilizing teleworking as we each do our part to combat the Coronavirus pandemic and many intend to continue a robust program in a post-pandemic setting. The policies adopted by our cities and towns are much more complex and thoughtful than maximizing the number of eligible employees, including probationary periods, home-office requirements, security measures, conflicts of interest, compensation, performance evaluations, grievance procedures, and more. As introduced, this legislation could require a municipality to pay for an employee's printer or internet service in order to work from home. It simply does not provide the flexibility for local governments to implement a functional and productive teleworking policy.

Reflecting the uniqueness and complexity of Human Resource decisions, the “who, what, when, and how” of teleworking should continue to be a function of local governments, who are very much leading the way. As we have throughout the pandemic, MML is happy to assist our membership by acting as a repository for certain policies and sharing them when needed.

For those reasons, the Maryland Municipal League opposes HB 73 and respectfully requests an unfavorable committee report.

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