



**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
SENATE BUDGET AND TAX COMMITTEE**

March 3, 2021

Senate Bill 881: Income Tax - Work Opportunity Tax Credit

Written Testimony Only

POSITION: FAVORABLE

On behalf of the members of the Health Facilities Association of Maryland (HFAM), we appreciate the opportunity to express our support for Senate Bill 881: Income Tax - Work Opportunity Tax Credit.

HFAM represents over 170 skilled nursing centers and assisted living communities in Maryland, as well as nearly 80 associate businesses that offer products and services to healthcare providers. Our members provide services and employ individuals in nearly every jurisdiction of the state. HFAM members provide the majority of post-acute and long-term care to Marylanders in need: 6 million days of care across all payer sources annually, including more than 4 million Medicaid days of care and one million Medicare days of care. Thousands of Marylanders across the state depend on the high-quality services that our skilled nursing and rehabilitation centers offer every day.

Senate Bill 881 is an important Maryland extension of the federal program that seeks to tangibly increase employment among under employed individuals and underserved communities. Enactment of this bill will enhance the employment prospects and career opportunities of veterans, qualified summer youth employees, vocational rehabilitation referral applicants, qualified long-term unemployment recipients, qualified SSI recipients, previously incarcerated individuals, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients, as well as other underserved and underemployed individuals in the Maryland workforce.

This legislation will allow more Marylanders to share their strengths through employment for the betterment of our state and personally advance themselves and their families. In addition, this legislation in Maryland will advance a federal policy to aid employers across all sectors, allowing them to grow and build their teams.

For these reasons, we request a favorable report from the Committee on Senate Bill 881.

Submitted by:

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