

Guy Guzzone, Chairman
Senate Budget and Taxation
3 West- Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

January 29, 2021

RE: Senate Bill 477 Enoch Pratt Free Library – Operating Hours and Funding
Position: Support

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee,

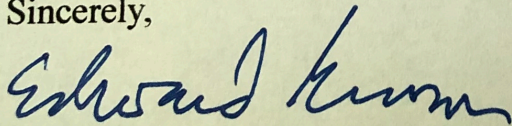
I am the President of “The Friends of the Enoch Pratt Free Library”, and on behalf of the Enoch Pratt Free Library, and the citizens of Baltimore, I urge your support of **Senate Bill 477- Enoch Pratt Library-Operating Hours and Funding.**

The Enoch Pratt Free Library is a vital resource for the residents of Baltimore and the State of Maryland through its designation as the State Library Resource Center. Given its dual role, public accessibility is very much a part of the Pratt’s mission.

I respectfully request your passage of SB477 which will authorize funding to allow the Pratt to continue to offer expanded hours at neighborhood branches throughout Baltimore. This means offering convenient hours so that more residents can utilize the Pratt’s student resources, wi-fi, virtual programs, job readiness services, access to lawyers and social workers who partner with the Pratt to get free assistance with human service and legal matters, and much more.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Enoch Pratt Library especially during these challenging times.

Sincerely,



Edward Brown
President, Friends of the Enoch Pratt Free Library

cc: Heidi Daniel – CEO, Enoch Pratt Free Library
Gordon Krabbe-COO, Enoch Pratt Free Library