



**TESTIMONY FOR HB0124  
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STANDARDS TO PROTECT EMPLOYEES –  
AEROSOL AND TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASES AND COVID-19**

**Bill Sponsor:** Delegate Valderrama

**Committee:** Economic Matters

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Cecilia Plante, co-chair

**Position:** FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB0124 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

There are so many people in this state that do not have protections when it comes to aerosol-transmissible diseases like Covid-19. Factory workers on the Eastern Shore, office workers, restaurant workers, and so many more. We have come to this knowledge too late to help too many people. We must make plans for the next Coronavirus.

This bill will require the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to create standards that will require employers to ensure that there is adequate ventilation and create mask and social distance requirements for this type of event. It also will ensure there is no retaliatory action against an employee who reports a failure to implement these requirements.

Creation of OSHA protections for workers will save lives in the future.

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.