

HB 1012 SUPPORT
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Thurgood Marshall BWI Workers' Right to Reinstatement Act.

House of Delegates Committee on Economic Matters
Friday, March 5, 2021 at 1:30pm

Dear Chair Davis, Vice Chair Dumais and members of the House Economic Matters Committee,

The Northeast Catholic Community urges support for HB1012 BWI-Thurgood Marshall Workers' Right to Reinstatement Act. Representing parishioners of eight Catholic parishes in northeast Baltimore, the Peace/Justice Committees meet regularly to provide joint forums on social issues and to advocate for social justice. We recently advocated for a similar bill which was passed to benefit hospitality workers in Baltimore City.

Businesses that operate at the airport have gotten Pandemic relief in the form of rent reductions, extended leases and access to grants and subsidies from the government. Workers also need some relief and some hope. Bill HB 1012 would require private sector employers at the airport (excluding the airlines) to call their employees who were laid off due to the Pandemic, back to work as business returns. This is 1) only fair to the employees who have been laid off through no fault of their own; and 2) good public policy.

We are all very hopeful that the vaccines will get COVID19 under control and we will once again be able to travel, eat in restaurants and resume other activity. In order for our economy to get up and running again people need to be back to work and earning a paycheck. At the airport we will also need to have experienced, trained workers who are already "badged" back at their stations to serve the public. This Bill if enacted, will also allow laid off workers to tell their landlords or creditors that they will be recalled to work once restrictions are lifted. It gives them some security. Please do the right thing.

We/I urge a favorable report on HB 1012.

Nancy L Conrad, Chairperson NECC Peace Justice Committee
(*St. Anthony of Padua, St. Dominic, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Matthew, St. Mary of the Assumption, Blessed Sacrament, Most Precious Blood, Shrine of the Little Flower.*)

