



Bill: HB 1012- Labor and Employment- BWI- Thurgood Marshall Workers' Right to Reinstatement Act

Position: OPPOSE

Committee: House Economic Matters

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee:

I serve as the CEO of the Greene Turtle Franchise Corporation. The Greene Turtle is an iconic Maryland brand in operation since 1976. We are a medium sized regional chain with 38 restaurants primarily in the state of Maryland, including our BWI Marshall location. BWI is a tremendously important location for our company and we are thankful to have rehired several of our prior staff. For reference we employed 750 employees prior to COVID and we currently employ 486 employees. While we hope to get back to pre COVID employment levels as soon as possible, the proposed regulations under HB 1012 will be a tremendous roadblock. We are proud to have done several things throughout the pandemic to support our employees including assistance with unemployment process, free meals, and constant communication on reopening to support their return to work, none of this required government mandates and interference with our operations.

This is why I strongly oppose HB 1012 as an unnecessary legislation. While we are doing everything in our power to survive and rehire our people as has already demonstrated, this bill would establish a government involved and vague multi-step process for rehiring employees and targets a very small sub-set of restaurants and retail businesses at BWI. **The net effect of this bill will be to slow rehiring, hamper businesses in such a way that they can reach pre COVID staffing levels and make BWI an undesirable place to run a business.** This bill would also unfairly burden struggling business owners seeking to mitigate any further loss by selling, and passes this rehiring process onto the next owner, making them susceptible litigation.

For these reasons, The Greene Turtle Corporation respectfully requests an unfavorable vote on HB 1012. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at geo@thegreenturtle.com or call me at 203-428-1080.

Sincerely,



Geo Concepcion
President / CEO

The Greene Turtle Franchise Corporation