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**BILL NO.:**           **HB 685**

**TITLE:**             Labor and Employment - Secure Maryland Wage Act

**SPONSOR:**        Delegate Valderrma

**COMMITTEE:**     Economic Matters

**POSITION:**       **SUPPORT**

**DATE:**            February 9, 2021

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 685 – Labor and Employment - Secure Maryland Wage Act. This legislation secures higher wage standards for employees working at a heightened security interest location.

In jobs at heightened security interest locations, high turnover rates and inexperienced employees may be potential sources of danger. Therefore, it is essential to provide workers with appropriate wages and benefits for ensuring national security. It is in the interest of the State to take steps to attract and retain experienced and trained workers. This strategy has already been adopted by Dulles International Airport and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport for this very reason.

HB 685 stands to benefit more than twenty-five hundred residents from Baltimore County who currently work at BWI, while also attracting more experienced workers to the area. This legislation invests in the hardworking individuals who keep our key transportation infrastructure points running safely and maintain these critical hubs for State and local economies.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 685. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Director of Government Affairs, at [cconner@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:cconner@baltimorecountymd.gov).