



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Good afternoon Chairman Davis, Vice Chair Dumais, and esteemed members of the Economic Matters Committee, and thank you for taking the time to consider **HB85 – Baltimore County – Workers’ Compensation – Permanent Partial Disability – Detention and Correctional Officers**.

This legislation, if passed, would enhance compensation benefits for Baltimore County correctional and detention workers for permanent and partial disability on the job, and it would bring us in line with five other counties in Maryland.

I worked closely over the interim with Denise Riley of the American Federation of Teachers – Maryland, John Ripley of the Baltimore County Federation of Public Employees, and Chuck Conner from Baltimore County Executive Johnny Olszewski’s office to craft this legislation and ensure that all parties were satisfied, which brings us to today’s presentation.

If ever there was a time to pass this legislation, it is now. Across the nation, correctional and detention facilities have been hit hard by Covid-19 outbreaks. We still don’t quite know the long-term ramifications of Covid-19, and we owe it to these workers to make sure they receive the benefits they deserve.

Thank you for considering HB85, and I urge you to look favorably upon this bill.