

Meghan Honesto

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Senator Antonio Hayes
222 James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Testimony in Support of SB 211 "Labor and Employment - Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program - Establishment (Time to Care Act of 2021)

Submitted to the Senate Finance Committee
Position: SUPPORT

Good Afternoon!

My name is Meghan Honesto. I am a commissioner with the Anne Arundel County Commission for Women. I reside with my family in Odenton, Maryland, Anne Arundel County, District 21.

I am writing in support of the SB 211 bill, which establishes a Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) A program through which employees may take up to 12 weeks of paid leave from their jobs to care for new children, other family members with serious health conditions or disabilities, or themselves.

If the last nine months have taught us anything it is that we should not have to choose between our work and caring for our loved ones. I lost my job in April due to the Covid-19 pandemic, but prior to that my husband and I had to make some tough decisions about who would care for our children with schools and daycare closings. Women need to know that our elected officials see them as equals in the home and in the workforce. This bill would help hardworking Marylanders, and couples have options and not choose between their sense of duty to work and to care for their families. I thank you for your consideration and urge a favorable vote on SB 211.

Regards,

Meghan Honesto, Commissioner

Anne Arundel County Commission for Women