

SB0211-Labor and Employment - Family and
Medical Leave Insurance Program - Establishment (Time to Care Act of 2021)
SUPPORT
Finance Committee

January 28, 2021

Dear Chair Dolores G. Kelley and Finance Committee Members,

Thank you and your committee for your consideration of this important issue that will mean so much to Maryland workers and their families.

We are Maryland business owners and we are joining a coalition of diverse businesses to support the Time to Care Act so that families can have the financial security to care for themselves and their loved ones after the birth of a child or in the case of serious illness.

Marylanders face impossible choices when new children are born or adopted and when serious personal or family health needs arise. The Time to Care Act would make paid leave available to Maryland workers for up to 12 weeks following the birth or adoption of a child, and when needed to provide care for a family member or oneself. The leave would be funded through an insurance pool, into which workers and their employers contribute.

As small businesses, paid family leave is good for our business and our employees because programs like Paid Family Leave, strengthen employee loyalty and morale.

When Paid Family Leave is administered through an insurance program, small businesses benefit because the cost is shared. As many of us have experienced through offering these benefits, first-time moms who take paid leave are more likely to return to the same employer. For these reasons, I am signing on in support of the Time to Care Coalition to urge the Maryland Legislature to pass legislation establishing a Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program.

Aaron Seyedian, Well-Paid Maids
Dr. Laura Dover, Dover Chiropractic
Joi Gaddy, Therapy LLC
Flora Gee, GCC, Inc dba Greenbelt Children's Center
Gina Schaefer, Ace Hardware Stores
Josie Rhodes, Red Canoe Cafe
Kevin Mullaney, Soup's On Baltimore
Bernardo Vigil, Baltimore Bicycle Works
Ned Atwater, Atwater's
Lisa Hawks, Chop Shop
Lauren Miller, GAP self storage
Lavonne Taylor, Forest Hill Nature Preschool
Caitlin Duffy, Amalgamated Bank