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BILL NO.: **HB 85**

TITLE: Baltimore County - Workers' Compensation - Permanent Partial Disability - Detention and Correctional Officers

SPONSOR: Delegate Bhandari

COMMITTEE: Economic Matters

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 2, 2021

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 85 – Baltimore County - Workers' Compensation - Permanent Partial Disability - Detention and Correctional Officers. This bill enhances workers' compensation benefits, specifically compensable permanent partial disability of less than 75 weeks, for Baltimore County correctional officers.

Baltimore County prioritizes supporting legislation that improves labor conditions to those who serve the community. Correctional officers often work under conditions that can pose risks to their lives and health. When a correctional officer is injured, resulting in a permanent partial disability, that officer is owed compensation. This should reflect not only the current and future costs of the injury itself, but the service the officer was providing the community at the time of the incident.

All workers deserve the opportunity to live comfortably and to know that at the end of the day, they will be able to put food on their family's table without worrying whether an accident will put them in a state of irreparable financial ruin. HB 85 ensures for Baltimore County's correctional officers that they will be compensated should they incur a devastating injury.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 85. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Director of Government Affairs, at cconner@baltimorecountymd.gov.