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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Testimony for HB 373**  
**Ways and Means Committee**

Good afternoon Madame Chair, Mr. Vice-chair, and esteemed members of the committee.  
I am Delegate C.T Wilson and I present to you:

**House Bill 373 - Education – Child Abuse and Sexual Misconduct Prevention – Hiring  
Emergent Employees**

**Bill Overview:**

Authorizing the hiring of an emergent employee by a county board of education or nonpublic school for a period not to exceed 60 days pending a review of the individual’s employment history for applicants who will have direct contact with minors; authorizing a county board or nonpublic school to take certain actions within the 60-day period; authorizing a certain appeal following a certain decision; authorizing a county board or nonpublic school to share a certain employment history review with other county boards and nonpublic schools; etc.

**Bill Outline:**

1. A county board, nonpublic school, or a contracting agency must require the applicant for a position involving direct contact with minors to submit contact information of current and former employers, as well as a written consent form and statement;
2. Before hiring, the county board, nonpublic school, or contracting agency must review applicant’s history, ask questions concerning child’s sexual abuse or sexual misconduct, and must request a form from the department for eligibility;
3. No later than 20 days after receiving request for information – the employer must send the information requested on the form prescribed by the department;
4. A county board of nonpublic school may hire an applicant as an emergent employee for no more than 60 days pending the review of information;

5. A person acting in good faith may not be held liable for disclosing any information relating to child sexual abuse or misconduct about a current or former employee's professional conduct or reason for termination
6. An applicant that provides false information or willfully fails to disclose material shall be subject to professional discipline

**Conclusion:**

In conclusion, this bill aims to provide authorization of hiring a certain emergent employee by a county board of education or nonpublic school for a certain period of time under certain conditions. Certain actions will be maintained in order to authorize appeals following decisions with the use of employment history reviews from the applicant who would have direct contact with minors.

**Thank you** for your time and I request a favorable report for **HB 373**.