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**Testimony**  
**HB 388 – Prevailing Wage – University System of Maryland, Morgan State University, and St. Mary’s College of Maryland – Applicability**  
**Economic Matters**  
**February 1, 2022**  
**Support**

AFSCME Council 3 supports the passage of HB 388. This legislation provides that the State prevailing wage law applies to a procurement for a public work contract by the University System of Maryland, Morgan State University, and St. Mary's College of Maryland.

AFSCME Council 3 represents higher education employees throughout our State’s university system, as well as Morgan State and St. Mary’s. Unfortunately, our experience regarding labor-management issues have not been a positive one. All too often the individual campuses have preferred to take a paternalistic approach when engaging their employees, instead of authentically and collaboratively engaging in labor-management discussions and negotiations with the exclusive representative. To date, many of the most pressing concerns brought on by the pandemic, including health safety issues and telework agreements, have been either sidelined or completely ignored by management.

There are projects within the public universities that would have contributed greatly to the economic impacts on the local and State levels if prevailing wage laws had been applicable. Yet following their philosophical anti-labor predilection, the universities instead have chosen to undercut workers’ pay for the services provided.

AFSCME Council 3 urges a favorable report of HB 388.

Every AFSCME Maryland State and University contract guarantees a right to union representation.  
An employee has the right to a union representative if requested by the employee.  
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