## HB496-Labor and Employment - Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program - Establishment (Time to Care Act of 2022) SUPPORT

## Finance Committee

February 15, 2022

Dear Chair C.T. Wilson and Economic Matters 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.

A Friendly Bread
Ace Hardware
AGM Financial Services, Inc.
Amalgamated Bank
Atawater's Traditional Food
B. Marie Accessories
Forest Hill Nature Preschool
Gap Self Storage
Great Blue Co
Innovative Party Planners
Lawyers Life Coach LLC
Medium Rare

Mayson-Dixon Companies Motzi Bread Parvit

RBS Consulting

Baltimore Bicycle Works
Baltimore Consulting
BenefitsApp
Beyond the Bar LLC
Black Oak Associates
Busboys and Poets
Red Canoe Cafe
Remedy
Saxon Legal
Sense of Wonder Early
Childhood Consultants, LLC

Sophomore Coffee
Soup's On
The Chop Shop
The ParVIT Company
Therapy LLC

Casa Figlia
Charmington's
Church Bar
Doug Bonilla LLC
The Chop Shop
Dover Chiropractic
Tinyshop Custom Woodwork
Unknown Studio Landscape
Architecture & Urban Design
UPD Consulting
Well-Paid Maids LLC
Work Printing and Graphics
Zeke's Coffee