



February 15, 2022

**House Bill 496**

**Labor and Employment - Family and Medical  
Leave Insurance Program - Establishment**

**Economic Matters Committee**

**Position: FAVORABLE**

Anne Arundel County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 496 - Labor and Employment – Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program – Establishment. HB 496 establishes the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program in the Maryland Department of Labor and expands leave opportunities for employees who need to take time off of work to care for themselves or their families.

HB 496 would provide temporary benefits to a covered individual who is taking leave to care for their child after their birth, adoption, or placement with their family, to care for a family member with a serious health condition, to care for or respond to an emergency involving next of kin who is a service member, or because the individual has a serious health condition preventing them from being able to perform the functions of their job.

Anne Arundel County strives to make our County the best place for all, and that includes our employees. HB 496 would provide our employees, and employees across the state, access to family and medical leave during difficult moments in life. This program would give employees the peace of mind knowing that when they're caring for a sick loved one or welcoming a new member of their family, they will have the time to fully dedicate themselves to their care, and will not have to worry about losing their source of income.

For these reasons, Anne Arundel County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 496.