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*Legislative District 24*  
Prince George's County

—  
Finance Committee

—  
*Joint Committees*

Children, Youth, and Families

Ending Homelessness

Fair Practices and State Personnel Oversight

Management of Public Funds

Protocol



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony of Senator Joanne C. Benson

SB 955: Maryland School for the Deaf - Professional Personnel and Staff - Service Designation, Assignment, and Placement in a Collective Bargaining Unit

Good afternoon Chair Kelley, Vice-Chair Feldman and members of the Finance Committee. SB 955 is designed to establish that professional personnel and staff employed by the Maryland School for the Deaf are in the professional and skilled services of the State Personnel Management System. This would allow these employees of the Maryland School of the Deaf to have equity in their pay negotiations. Also, it would require that the Secretary of Budget and Management assign the experienced personnel and staff to the professional and skilled services of the State Personnel Management System, certain bargaining units, and require that the professional personnel and staff of the school suffer no diminution of pay or benefits. This overall is a correction of previous legislation that left out certain groups. Passing this bill is a matter of doing what is right for those who work diligently with children that are disabled.

Therefore, I ask that you give SB 955 a favorable report.