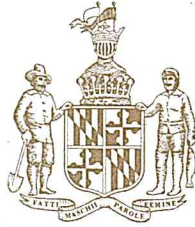


**MICHAEL A. JACKSON**  
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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
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***TESTIMONY - SENATE BILL 491***

***CHARLES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION –  
SCHOOL BUS CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES – NEGOTIATIONS  
EDUCATION, ENERGY, & THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 22, 2023***

Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan and Committee Members:

Senate Bill 491 is a very straightforward bill designed to promote a cooperative relationship for labor relations for Charles County school bus drivers.

This legislation does two things. It designates the Charles County Board of Education as a joint employer of school bus contractor employees allowing for direct negotiations over workplace rules, wage rates, benefits, and other policies set by the county. Additionally, it requires the Charles County Board of Education to include labor representatives in their yearly negotiations with the school bus contractors association.

This legislation is a clear and direct effort to help promote a cooperative relationship for labor relations for Charles County school bus drivers. Those who transport our children to and from school perform a critical service for those that we hold most dear. This legislation simply aims to better attend to the working conditions of these critical employees.

**For the reasons listed above, I ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 491.**