



MARYLAND STATE & D.C. AFL-CIO

AFFILIATED WITH NATIONAL AFL-CIO

7 School Street • Annapolis, Maryland 21401-2096

Balto. (410) 269-1940 • Fax (410) 280-2956

President

Donna S. Edwards

Secretary-Treasurer

Gerald W. Jackson

**SB 574 - State Employee Rights and Protections - Personnel Actions and Harassment -
Complaints
Senate Finance Committee
March 3, 2023**

SUPPORT

Donna S. Edwards

President

Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO

Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 574. My name is Donna S. Edwards, and I am the President of the Maryland State and District of Columbia AFL-CIO. On behalf of Maryland's 300,000 union members, I offer the following comments.

SB 574 expands the period that an employee can file complaints alleging harassment up to one year following knowledge of the incident. Workplaces should have zero tolerance for harassment. Workers deserve to feel safe when they are at work. The current 30 day requirement for filing complaints cuts off workers ability to seek justice. The Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO maintains our own Code of Conduct that gets read before all meetings. We have attached that Code of Conduct to our testimony.

We encourage the committee to issue a favorable report.