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**BILL NO.:**           **HB 229**

**TITLE:**             Employment for Minors - Opportunities for Work

**SPONSOR:**         Delegate Queen

**COMMITTEE:**      Economic Matters

**POSITION:**       **SUPPORT**

**DATE:**             February 7, 2023

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 229 – Employment for Minors - Opportunities for Work. This legislation would require the Department of Labor, with parental consent, to make directory information of students with a work permit available to apprenticeship providers, employers, education institutions, and local workforce boards.

Baltimore County supports enhancing and expanding resources that connect students with employment opportunities and prepare young residents for entering the workforce. For many students just beginning to pick their career paths, identifying and connecting with the appropriate resources for training can prove challenging. For businesses who seek to implement workforce training services, there does not currently exist a statewide directory for eligible student workers.

House Bill 229 would bring both parties together by collecting and providing a list of eligible students looking for employment opportunities to employers and local workforce boards. By sharing directory information with local workforce boards who already maintain close relationships with local businesses, this legislation creates a process that leverages existing partnerships to ensure information reaches as many relevant stakeholders as possible.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 229. For more information, please contact Jenn Aiosa, Director of Government Affairs at [jaiosa@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:jaiosa@baltimorecountymd.gov).