

**SHEREE SAMPLE-HUGHES**  
*Legislative District 37A*  
Dorchester and Wicomico Counties

—  
SPEAKER PRO TEM  
—

Economic Matters Committee

Rules and Executive  
Nominations Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates  
6 Bladen Street, Room 313  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3427 · 301-858-3427  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3427  
Fax 410-841-3780 · 301-858-3780  
Sheree.Sample.Hughes@house.state.md.us

**THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES**  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**TESTIMONY FOR JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS**

**CHAIR SMITH**  
**VICE CHAIR WALDSTREICHER**

**HOUSE BILL 71 – MOTOR VEHICLES – SCHOOL VEHICLE DRIVERS – MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

**SUPPORT**

**March 22, 2023**

Good Afternoon Chair Smith and Vice Chair Waldstreicher and members of Judicial Proceedings Committee. I am here today to ask for your support for HB 71 – Motor Vehicles – School Vehicle Drivers – Medical Examinations. HB 71 changes the current state requirements for School Bus Drivers passing medical examinations from annually up to every two years. However, if a jurisdiction chooses to be more restrictive, they retain the ability to do so. HB71 unanimously (137 – 0) passed the House on March 2, 2023.

This change will align Maryland state requirements with current federal requirements, and with those of our neighbors to the north and the south, Pennsylvania, Delaware Virginia. In doing so, we will become more competitive in maintaining our school bus drivers in counties such as Garrett, Wicomico, and Worcester that all border states with the proposed requirements already in place. This proposed change comes at a time when the MVA Medical Review Board allows the public to submit complaints, which are then prioritized by the MVA in conjunction with the local school board.

In Maryland amidst the current statewide worker shortages, particularly in education, we need our school bus drivers more than ever. HB 71 helps alleviate this post-pandemic shortage by removing a barrier to entry for prospective school bus-drivers and by lessening a burden on current ones.

For this reason, I am asking for a favorable report on HB 71. Thank you for your time.