



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

March 5, 2024

Committee: Senate Finance

Bill: SB 845 – Workers' Compensation - Temporary Partial Disability - Concurrent Employment

Position: Unfavorable

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League opposes Senate Bill 845, which would require local government employers to pay a higher temporary disability claim to employees who are injured on the job but still able to work at a concurrently held job.

Under current law, if the injured employee can continue working their second job, the employee may be eligible to receive temporary *partial* disability benefits. This measured approach meets the intent of workers' compensation: to provide benefits to injured workers while they are unable to work, without unduly burdening a single employer. It ensures workers who are injured at work have access to medical care and receive compensation to cover a portion of their lost wages while they are out of work, among other benefits.

However, this bill would allow the employee to claim an amount equal to a temporary *total* disability award if they would have likely received a temporary *total* disability award if that employee only had one job instead of multiple jobs. This change is in direct conflict with the intent of workers' compensation benefits: if an employee can still work, a total disability award is unnecessary.

This bill proposes a significant and potentially expensive expansion for local government employers. For these reasons, the League respectfully requests an unfavorable report on Senate Bill 845.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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