

**House Bill 176 – Labor and Employment – Occupational Safety and Health –
Revisions (Davis Martinez Public Employee Safety and Health Act)
Appropriations Committee
February 18, 2025**

FAVORABLE

My name is Cherrish Vick, I have worked as a Family Services Case manager for 16 years with the Department of Human Services in Prince George's County and I am a proud member of AFSCME Local 112. I am writing in strong support of this legislation and asking for your support of this bill.

In my role at the Department, I conduct home visits to ensure that vulnerable adults are safe and have the services in place to remain in the community. This prevents nursing home placement, thus saving the State money. Often times, these clients are voluntary and are receptive to services and the Departments' involvement in their life. However, there is always the possibility that there are others in the home who are not as receptive. Even with voluntary clients, there can be environmental factors in the home and community that can pose a threat to the Worker.

I am in strong support of this bill. Ensuring Worker safety will allow myself and my workers to continue to protect vulnerable adults. We will feel more comfortable interacting with voluntary and involuntary clients because we will have more protections. This bill can also be used as a recruitment tool for the Department.

I urge the committee to issue a favorable report on House Bill 176.