



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

## TESTIMONY

March 26, 2025

**Committee:** House Appropriations Committee

**Bill:** SB 652 - Local Government – Local Personnel – Leave With Pay

**Position:** Favorable

**Reason for Position:**

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) supports Senate Bill 652, as amended. The bill provides the option for local governments to provide a dedicated type of leave for certain employees.

Municipal governments generally provide excellent fringe benefits as part of their compensation package for municipal employees, which tends to result in a stable workforce. However, many municipal jobs are inherently different in that they support essential services such as water and wastewater treatment, public safety, refuse collection, and infrastructure maintenance. With such critical assignments, entitled leave can place an outsized burden on municipal governments to find temporary replacements.

Any additional tools for municipal governments to recruit qualified applicants is appreciated. As such MML supports the bill as amended that clarifies that the leave proposed in this bill is given at the employer's discretion, thus alleviating the concern over essential services going unprovided.

For these reasons, the Maryland Municipal League respectfully requests a favorable report on Senate Bill 652 as amended. For more information, please contact Bill Jorch, Director, Public Policy and Research at [billj@mdmunicipal.org](mailto:billj@mdmunicipal.org). Thank you for your consideration.