



HB 632
Workplace Fraud Act
Labor and Employment - Workplace Fraud - Application
(Maryland Workplace Fraud Act of 2025)
Position: Favorable

My name is Ricarra Jones, and I am the Political Director of 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East. We are the largest healthcare workers union in the nation – representing 10,000 healthcare workers in long-term care facilities and hospitals across Maryland. 1199 SEIU worked with Caring Across Maryland coalition to pass SB197 which prevents misclassification of home care workers employed by residential services agencies. 1199 SEIU supports HB632 because it expands the scope to protect all workers from misclassification.

HB 632 ensures private employees are properly classified. HB 632 would include private home care workers and other direct care workers, who are often misclassified. Many of our members interact with home care aides who help some residents in the facilities. There are also DDA funded home care workers and private home care workers that are not covered under last years legislation to protect misclassified home care workers working at residential service agencies. Home care workers are an important part of the patient care team. Often, home care workers have no idea they are being cut out of the social safety net that employees receive and are struggling to pay bills and keep a roof over their heads.

1199 SEIU represents healthcare workers across the care continuum – long term care, hospitals, and clinics – and we know how our broken long term care infrastructure impacts our state's unique Total Cost of Care healthcare model and our already burdened emergency rooms. Ensuring we have the care force in Maryland to let residents age safely in their homes will positively impact the entire care system. Preventing workplace fraud for private employees like the ones mentioned can pave the way for a stronger care system. For those reasons, we urge the committee to ensure a favorable report HB 632.

Sincerely,

Ricarra Jones
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