



AFT, AFL-CIO Local 6197

A union of professionals in service to the people of Maryland.

Written Testimony Submitted to the Judicial Proceedings Committee HB1156- Correctional Services – Maryland Parole Commission – March 25, 2025

## UNFAVORABLE

The Maryland Professional Employees Council (MPEC), AFT Local 6197, seeks an unfavorable report for HB1156.

HB 1156 will affect 45 bargaining unit employees and threatens the positions of hearing and examination officers within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS). Its provisions could lead to the elimination or substantial modification of their roles.

HB 1156 lacks sufficient provisions for retaining or reassigning these employees, leaving them uncertain about their professional futures. At a time when recruitment and retention in public service positions are already challenging, passing legislation that threatens job security for dedicated public servants is counterproductive.

We urge the committee to carefully consider the unintended consequences of HB 1156 and to reject this bill in the interest of fairness, due process, and preserving a skilled workforce within DPSCS. The state must protect these employees rather than enact policies that harm their job security.

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