

March 31, 2026

TO: House Economic Matters Committee

FROM: Tara Rider  
Brigit  
36 W 20th Street  
New York, New York 10011

RE: Senate Bill 0094/House Bill 237: Unfavorable/Amend

Chairwoman Valderrama, Vice Chair Charkoudian, and members of the committee:

My name is Tara Rider and I am the Vice President of Policy and Government Relations at Brigit, a financial wellness company that offers direct to consumer, earned wage access (“EWA”) to over 130,000 consumers in Maryland at an average of \$75.00 per transaction. As you know, earned wage access is a financial tool that so many Maryland residents rely on. I am here to discuss the proposed amendments to newly enacted Chapter 847. While the amendments have a focus on tips, Brigit’s concerns are around other provisions that would improperly apply loan statutes to the product and leave industry with more questions than answers of what if any new requirements will be placed on them during and after licensure. It is unclear why loan statutes are being utilized rather than establishing important provisions within Chapter 847 which regulates earned wage access services as a distinct and separate product.

We appreciate the time and efforts that both the Senate Finance Committee and House Economic Matters Committee have spent working with stakeholders on this important issue over the last two plus years. Amending the bill further may potentially create more confusion as part of the licensing process and put new requirements on providers who are still awaiting licensure under the current framework. I ask that providers are given a fair opportunity to gain their licensure first before any amendments are made that may impact operations; should any issues arise, we continue an open dialogue with all interested parties to determine the best path forward as we have done for the last two years.

Brigit has continued to have conversations with the Office of Financial Regulation, the Office of the Attorney General, and interested stakeholders to discuss this legislation and the desire to obtain licensure. We have offered several ideas and solutions and would like to continue those conversations before any additional changes to existing law are made.

Thank you again for your efforts on creating a responsible framework for earned wage access providers to be licensed under. I urge you to not take any further action on a new law where many providers are still awaiting licensure.

Sincerely,

Tara Rider  
Vice President, Policy and Government Relations