

Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1300

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Proudly representing the transit workers of the MTA!



SB 804 - Labor and Employment - Occupational Safety and Health - Revisions to Heat Stress Standards Unfavorable

Senate Finance Committee
March 11th, 2026

ATU Local 1300 represents over 3,000 transit workers at the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA). This includes bus operators, bus mechanics, rail operators, rail maintenance workers, and more. Our members keep Maryland moving every day.

The bill weakens the heat stress standards designed to protect workers put forward by the Maryland Occupational Safety and Health (MOSH) division. The bill removes critical rest periods required by MOSH standards when the heat index reaches 90 or 100. It also removes the requirement for acclimatization periods. It does not account for Maryland's humid climate, by ignoring the impact that humidity has on safety. This is done by changing the way temperature is measured in the legislation. These requirements put forward by MOSH were not invented from the imaginations of workers seeking to avoid work. They were evidence based protections to keep workers safe and alive.

We urge the committee to issue an unfavorable report and allow the heat stress standards that MOSH drafted to move forward.