

Testimony by Kim Modeski BCPL Circulation Manager

2/20/26

Good morning, Baltimore County Delegation. My name is Kim Modeski and I am a Circulation Manager at Baltimore County Public Library. I would like to thank you for considering this legislation.

In 2022 non-supervisory staff at Baltimore County Public Library were successful in forming a union to collectively bargain on their behalf. However, this did not include a supervisory unit to be formed in Baltimore, because BCPL was an "unorganized" library system. This bill, HB388, will provide the rights that other counties in Maryland already possess. This bill will not alter the unionizing and collective bargaining processes established in BCPL's 2021 law, Essentially, this bill enables rights for supervisory staff but will not disrupt a process that has proven to work. I feel that providing supervisory inclusion in this unit is essential to protect our right to collectively bargain.

I would ask that my colleagues and I receive the opportunity to unionize to protect our working conditions and assist in negotiating wages. Communication and transparency have long been overlooked by administration but are a crucial element for our success. I ask that you consider allowing a supervisory unit the ability to join our non-supervisory staff in ensuring a safe and fair environment in which to work.