

Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1300

126 W. 25th Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21218
Telephone: 410-889-3566 Facsimile: 410-243-5541
www.atu1300.org

Proudly representing the transit workers of the MTA!



HB 45 - Labor and Employment - Mandatory Meetings on Religious or Political Matters - Employee Attendance and Participation (Maryland Worker Freedom Act)

Favorable

House Government, Labor, and Elections Committee

February 19, 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.

Captive audience meetings are a violation of a worker's freedom of speech. It's that simple. They are a form of compelled political activity that violates the constitution. We were glad to see that the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) banned captive audience meetings as an unfair labor practice that was prohibited by federal law.

Unfortunately, with Trump's unconstitutional seizure of and disregard for the NLRB, these protections were rolled back and workers will be subjected to mandatory political and religious meetings held by their employers, unless the Maryland General Assembly intervenes.

We urge the committee to issue a favorable report on this bill.