

**Testimony in Opposition to Senate Bill 241
Maryland Healthy Working Families Act - Applicability**

**Senate Finance Committee
February 13, 2020
1:00 PM**

**Sean Johnson
Government Relations**

The Maryland State Education Association opposes Senate Bill 241 that seeks to expand exemptions of the Maryland Healthy Working Families Act to substitute teachers.

MSEA represents 75,000 educators and school employees who work in Maryland's public schools, teaching and preparing our 896,837 students for careers and jobs of the future. MSEA also represents 39 local affiliates in every county across the state of Maryland, and our parent affiliate is the 3 million-member National Education Association (NEA).

Earned sick leave has been a legislative priority for MSEA because sick and safe leave for employees helps build stronger families, healthier communities, workplaces with happier and more productive employees, and students who are ready to learn.

Substitute teachers that meet the high bar of routine work and hours should not be prohibited from earning sick leave just because they also meet the definition outlined in the bill as a substitute employee. Agreements reached in the initial adoption of the law should not be revisited at the detriment of workers.

MSEA requests an unfavorable report for Senate Bill 241.