

**Testimony in Opposition to House Bill 1021
Labor and Employment - Maryland Healthy Working Families Act - Seasonal
Temporary Workers**

**House Economic Matters Committee
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1:00 PM**

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Government Relations**

The Maryland State Education Association opposes House Bill 1021, as it seeks to undo results of negotiations in the adoption of the Maryland Healthy Working Families Act.

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.

As the General Assembly has debated earned sick leave over the last several years, negotiations and compromises were made to support workers and businesses. The seasonal employee negotiations were among the most contentious, and the agreements reached in the initial adoption of the law should not be revisited at the detriment of workers. If any change were to be made, it should be to shorten the probationary period to 90 days; not to expand it to 120 days.

MSEA joins with other partners to continue the fight to preserve earned sick leave benefits and requests an unfavorable report for House Bill 1021.