



MTBMA

MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION BUILDERS
AND MATERIALS ASSOCIATION

March 5th, 2021

Delegate Dereck E. Davis, Chair
Economic Matters Committee
231 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 1012 – UNFAVORABLE – Labor and Employment – Reinstatement of Employment – Employees at Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI – Thurgood Marshall Workers’ Right to Reinstatement Act)

Dear Chairman Davis and Committee Members:

The Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association (“MTBMA”) has been and continues to serve as the voice for Maryland’s construction transportation industry since 1932. Our association is comprised of 200 members. MTBMA encourages, develops, and protects the prestige of the transportation construction and materials industry in Maryland by establishing and maintaining respected relationships with federal, state, and local public officials.

Under this emergency legislation, HB 1012 would require all employers at Baltimore-Washington Airport (“BWI”) to reinstate laid-off employees. As you are well too aware, the COVID-19 pandemic has created immense hardships for the businesses within the airport. Airport executives do not estimate passenger traffic to get back to pre-pandemic levels for at least two years. As a result of this unprecedented pandemic, every business at BWI has had to scale back their labor immensely. This bill is a matter of bad public policy and we simply cannot support anything that seeks to control how the private market handles employment affairs. No one wants to get these employees back to work more than their former employers, but we cannot allow the legislature to mandate how and when an employer brings back a former employee.

We thank you for your time and consideration of this important legislation and ask for an UNFAVORABLE report on House Bill 1012.

Thank you,

Michael Sakata
President and CEO
Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association