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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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SB 475

Maryland Transit Administration Police – Collective Bargaining –
Supervisors and Sergeants

Good Afternoon Chair Kelley, Vice Chair Feldman and Members of Finance:

SB475 adds sergeants and supervisors within the Maryland Transportation Administration Police to the list of employees authorized to collectively bargain with the Maryland Transit Administration.

Currently, MTA Police Supervisors and Sergeants have no viable avenue of addressing issues regarding their workplaces, wages, and benefits. MTA supervisors oversee MTA employees who are represented by ATU Local 1300. Local 1300 members receive regular cost of living upgrades, and in many cases have either matched or exceeded the wages paid to supervisors

Being unable to negotiate wages has led to severe wage compression, which leads to high turnover and low morale. New regulations on law enforcement officers are going to increase sergeants' supervisory tasks and responsibilities.

MTA supervisors and sergeants are vital to ensuring safe and sanitary public transportation and deserve respect for their work. They should have, like other MTA employees, the right to collectively bargain their wages, benefits, working conditions, and staffing.

I respectfully request a favorable report on SB 475.