



Maryland Classified Employees Association

**SUPERVISORS UNITED FOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING**

**Written Testimony Submitted to the  
Maryland Senate Finance Committee  
MD SB 0298**

**State Personnel – Collective Bargaining – Supervisory and Managerial Employees  
February 26, 2023  
SUPPORT**

**February 15, 2023**

Good afternoon, Chair Griffith and members of the Senate Finance Committee. My name is Garry Cochrane and I am a Supervisor at Metro Railcar Maintenance for Maryland Transit Administration, my work location is 5801 Wabash Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215. I have been working at the MTA for twenty-two years. I am a member of Supervisors United for Collective Bargaining and the Maryland Classified Employees Association, AFT local 1935. As a state supervisor, currently excluded from the state's collective bargaining law for Maryland employees, I am submitting this letter to you to advocate for HB 0183, and ask this committee for a favorable report.

My job duties include daily performing tasks associated with all aspects of maintaining a railcar. I assigned work assignments to everyone that I supervise and I checked and closed work orders in Maximo. I approved time sheets and I constantly interact with my employees about their work assignments.

The reason I want to have collective bargaining is to maintain my salary above the employees that I supervise. Employees that I supervise have collective bargaining rights. I feel as though supervisors should be able to negotiate their salaries. This is the correct thing to do for the State of Maryland General Assembly to pass this bill.

To conclude, when state collective bargaining law was introduced and passed over 20 years ago, we as supervisors were erroneously excluded, even though we are state workers and do not hire, fire, promote, or adjust grievances for any state employee. We again call this committee to issue a favorable report for MD SB 0298. Thank you.

Garry Cochrane

State of Maryland