



January 30 2012

The Honorable Brian E. Frosh
Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East, Miller Senate Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1912

Re: SB16 – Jury Service – Employers – Prohibited Acts – **Oppose**

Dear Senator Frosh:

Businesses are currently required by law to support employees who are called to serve on a jury, without retaliation or penalty. SB16 seeks to restrict a business from requiring any employee to work on a day where that employee has spent more than 3 hours responding to a summons for jury service. Such a restriction would prevent a business from requiring an employee, whose normal schedule begins later in the day, from working any part of that day. For example, an employee who reports for jury service at 9:00 a.m. and is released shortly after noon cannot be required to work under the provisions of this bill, even when that employee is normally scheduled to begin work at 3:00 p.m. or later.

Conceivably, this scenario could play out over several days or weeks for any one employee. Many industries (manufacturing, health care, retail, etc.) have second shifts that begin at 3:00 p.m. or later. While we recognize the intent of this bill, we feel that relieving an employee of work under these circumstances is unwarranted and believe it will add an unnecessary burden to employers in an already over-regulated business environment.

The Legislative Committee of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce opposes SB16. We therefore ask that your committee give this bill a negative report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Michael McMullin'.

Michael McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Senator Joseph M. Getty