

Our hearts go out to the families and loved ones of those who lost their lives when the Francis Scott Key Bridge collapsed. We all go to work expecting to come home safely at the end of our shifts, which makes this news even more heartbreaking. We thank all of the first responders, emergency personnel, and MDTA employees who are working around the clock to bring some closure to these families and to help us rebuild.

If you'd like to talk to someone during this difficult time, you can call or text 988. You can learn more at 988helpline.org.



Pictured: AFSCME Maryland President Patrick Moran speaking at the Union Night Rally in Annapolis

MESSAGE FROM AFSCME MARYLAND PRES. PATRICK MORAN

The Power of AFSCME Sisters

March is Women’s History Month, and as we come to the end of month, I can’t help but reflect on the power of our AFSCME sisters and everything they’ve done to lift up women across the country.

Did you know that it was our AFSCME sisters who were the first group of women to successfully win pay equity for their work? On July 5, 1981, AFSCME Local 101 went on strike to demand pay equity for all of the women employed by the City of San Jose in California. Ten days later, the workers were victorious, and their final agreement included pay raises and additional money set aside to bring all of the women employed by the city up to par with their male counterparts. The organizing done by these AFSCME sisters started a movement across the nation for pay equity in the workplace.

There is truly no other force but a union that brings wage equity to our jobs. Our union contracts ensure everyone will be compensated fairly no matter what. And this month and every month, we’ll keep organizing and fighting until all workers are treated fairly!

- AFSCME Maryland Council 3 President Patrick Moran

Legislative Session: Almost to the Finish Line!

We're less than two weeks away from the end of this year's legislative session, and there's a lot we have accomplished in these past few months.

A huge thank you to everyone who has come out to Annapolis this year, whether it was for a Lobby Night, budget hearing, bill hearing, rally, or press conference!

Once this year's Legislative Session wraps up, please stay tuned for our end-of-session report. In the meantime, you can read our mid-session report from earlier on our website.



ACTION ALERT

Support Elkton Workers!

Help us amend the labor code by sending a letter to the Elkton mayor and town commissioners!

Send a letter: bit.ly/elkton-letter





AFSCME Members Win \$23 Million Wage Theft Settlement!

On March 13, the Board of Public Works (BPW) approved the final portion of a nearly \$23 million wage settlement that affected nearly 6,000 correctional employees across Maryland, making this the second largest wage theft settlement for correctional officers in the history of the United States.

Thanks to the tireless organizing and work of AFSCME leaders and members, everyone will finally be made whole. ***If you have questions about the settlement, please visit the FAQ page on our website.***



From left to right: Chief Shop Stewards Kish Fields, Wynton Johnson, Jenny Reese, Rayneika Robinson, and Tony Sines

Introducing Your Chief Shop Stewards for the State!

For the first time, our contract covering 20,000 state employees in Units A, B, C, D, F, and H contains language allowing us to have five Chief Stewards! These individuals are released from their state duties for the calendar year, allowing them to focus full-time on organizing and building our union, representing members and solving workplace issues, and more.

We're excited to announce the following Chief Stewards for 2024:

- Takisha "Kish" Fields — DHS, AFSCME Local 112
- Wynton Johnson — SHA/MDOT, AFSCME Local 631
- Jenny Reese — MDH, AFSCME Local 539
- Rayneika Robinson — DPP, AFSCME Local 3661
- Tony Sines — DPSCS, AFSCME Local 898

Learn more about them on our website!



State Supervisors: Vote Yes for AFSCME Maryland!

SB 192/HB 260 (which would grant collective bargaining rights to state supervisors in Unit S) is going to the Governor's desk! If you know any supervisors, **tell them to sign the "Vote Yes" card to secure our union once this bill passes!**



VOTE YES HERE!

AFSCME Members in Action

📅 For the first time in nearly a decade, AFSCME members (who are state employees in Units A, B, C, D, F, and H) joined Governor Wes Moore in Annapolis for a **contract signing ceremony**.

👏 A round of applause for the amazing AFSCME members who attended our **Central Region stewards training** this month! Thank you for stepping up to defend our union contracts and protect our rights in the workplace!

🏠 On Thursday, March 21, AFSCME Local 647 president Paul Wallace, who works for the Baltimore City Housing Authority as a maintenance technician, traveled to Washington, DC to speak in support of a Green New Deal for Public Housing. This set of federal legislation would help revitalize public housing facilities across the country.



Pictured: AFSCME Local 647 President Paul Wallace speaking in DC (left), participants of Central Region Stewards Training (right)