# TIME TO CARE A SAFETY NET FOR MARYLAND FAMILIES



The **Time to Care Act** (HB8/SB275) will help Marylanders take time away from work to care for new babies, loved ones with serious health conditions such as COVID-19 or disabilities, or themselves. With their income partially replaced from an insurance fund into which they've paid, families are also better able to care for an aging parent, or deal with a military deployment.

## THE CHALLENGE

FEWER 40%

of US workers have paid leave for short-term disabilities.

3 OUT 4

new fathers take one week or less of leave when their babies are born.

23%

of U.S. workers have access to paid family leave.

**NEARLY 25**%

of women take 10 or fewer days of maternity leave, potentially putting themselves and their children at risk physically and emotionally.

# **THE SOLUTION: A NEW INSURANCE PLAN FOR FAMILIES**



Employers and employees contribute a small amount from each paycheck. (Average combined weekly contribution is \$7.04 or 0.67% of payroll.)



State Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program (FAMLI) program is supervised by the State Department of Labor (DOL).



Marylanders apply for benefit when they need to take leave from work for birth or adoption of child, illness, or caring for loved one.



FAMLI approves benefits (up to 12 weeks) for eligible Marylanders. Payments range from \$50-\$1,000/week depending on income.



Families use benefits to cover expenses while not being paid at work.

# WE ALL BENEFIT

### MARYLAND FAMILIES

can meet their caregiving, employment, and financial commitments.

### **TAXPAYFRS**

save through reduced Medicaid spending, less reliance on social services, and lower unemployment.

### BUSINESSES

can recruit and retain the best workers.

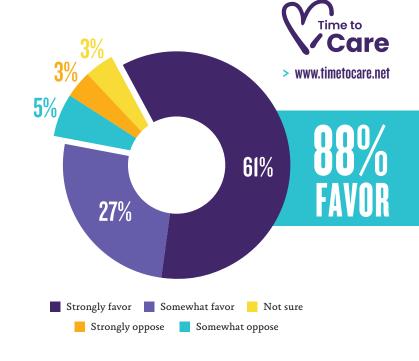
# MARYLAND VOTERS OVERWHELMINGLY **SUPPORT PAID FAMILY** AND MEDICAL LEAVE

91% of Maryland voters1 believe people should be able to take time away from work for major needs like the birth of a new child or serious illness.

The pandemic appears to be animating voters and underlining their support for this proposal, as 84% say it is more important than ever for workers to have access to such a leave program during the pandemic.

In particular, we see in this poll that the pandemic's disproportionate impact on women's ability to remain in the workforce is an extremely motivating factor for voters.

Evidence shows passage of Paid Family and Medical Leave increases the enthusiasm of Democratic voters and makes them more likely to come out to vote this Fall. It also disproportionately motivates voters who are younger or lower-income, voters of color, and those who are historically less frequent in their voting.



# **SUPPORT CROSSES PARTY LINES**

	ALL VOTERS	DEMOCRATS	REPUBLICANS	INDEPENDENTS
VOR	88%	94%	<b>77</b> %	<b>85</b> %

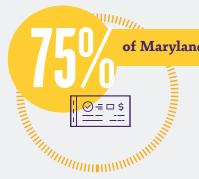
Opinionworks conducted a total of 1,077 interviews statewide between Dec 15, 2021 – Jan 10, 2022, among randomly selected Maryland registered voters.

# **EFFECT ON VOTING**

would be more likely to vote for a legislator who voted

YES TO PASS THIS PROPOSAL

# SUPPORT FOR HOW IT'S FUNDED



Disabilities Council

of Maryland voters support the proposal.

when told it would be funded by an average cost to workers of

in payroll deductions.















