

# HOUSE BILL 523

P4

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CF SB 225

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By: **Delegates Valderrama and Hettleman**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2020

Assigned to: Appropriations

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 18, 2020

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Personnel – Employee Accommodations – Pregnancy and Childbirth**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring certain units of State government to provide certain  
4 reasonable accommodations for an employee with certain limitations caused or  
5 contributed to by pregnancy or childbirth; prohibiting units of State government,  
6 under certain circumstances, from requiring an employee to take certain leave or  
7 requiring an employee to accept certain accommodations under certain  
8 circumstances; providing for the application of this Act; defining a certain term; and  
9 generally relating to pregnancy and childbirth and accommodations for State  
10 employees.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – State Personnel and Pensions

13 Section 2–311

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – State Personnel and Pensions**

19 **2–311.**

20 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “LIMITATION” INCLUDES:**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1           **(1) A TEMPORARY DISABILITY FOR JOB-RELATED PURPOSES CAUSED**  
2 **OR CONTRIBUTED TO BY PREGNANCY OR CHILDBIRTH; AND**

3           **(2) A RESTRICTION ON THE ABILITY OF AN EMPLOYEE TO PERFORM**  
4 **JOB FUNCTIONS CAUSED OR CONTRIBUTED TO BY PREGNANCY OR CHILDBIRTH.**

5           **(B) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO ALL UNITS IN THE EXECUTIVE, JUDICIAL,**  
6 **AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES OF STATE GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING ALL UNITS WITH**  
7 **INDEPENDENT PERSONNEL SYSTEMS.**

8           **(C) A UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT, THROUGH ITS APPROPRIATE**  
9 **OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES, SHALL PROVIDE REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS TO**  
10 **AN EMPLOYEE WITH A LIMITATION CAUSED OR CONTRIBUTED TO BY PREGNANCY OR**  
11 **CHILDBIRTH, INCLUDING BY:**

12           **(1) CHANGING THE EMPLOYEE'S JOB DUTIES;**

13           **(2) CHANGING THE EMPLOYEE'S WORK HOURS;**

14           **(3) RELOCATING THE EMPLOYEE'S WORK AREA;**

15           **(4) PROVIDING MECHANICAL OR ELECTRICAL AIDS;**

16           **(5) TRANSFERRING THE EMPLOYEE TO A LESS STRENUOUS OR LESS**  
17 **HAZARDOUS POSITION; OR**

18           **(6) PROVIDING LEAVE.**

19           **(D) A UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT MAY NOT:**

20           **(1) REQUIRE AN EMPLOYEE TO TAKE LEAVE, WHETHER PAID OR**  
21 **UNPAID, IF THE EMPLOYER CAN PROVIDE ANOTHER REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION**  
22 **FOR THE EMPLOYEE'S LIMITATION CAUSED OR CONTRIBUTED TO BY PREGNANCY OR**  
23 **CHILDBIRTH; OR**

24           **(2) REQUIRE AN EMPLOYEE TO ACCEPT AN ACCOMMODATION THAT**  
25 **THE EMPLOYEE CHOOSES NOT TO ACCEPT IF:**

26           **(I) THE EMPLOYEE DOES NOT HAVE A LIMITATION CAUSED OR**  
27 **CONTRIBUTED TO BY PREGNANCY OR CHILDBIRTH; OR**

28           **(II) THE ACCOMMODATION IS NOT NECESSARY FOR THE**

1 **EMPLOYEE TO PERFORM THE ESSENTIAL DUTIES OF THE EMPLOYEE'S JOB.**

2 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
3 October 1, 2020.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.