



Testimony
Bill 25-0036: Fair Share PILOT Taskforce
Position: **FAVORABLE**

To Chair Danielle McCray and Members of the Budget & Appropriations Committee,

My name is Antonia Brooks. I am a Technician 2 in an Intensive Care Unit at a hospital that is part of the PILOT agreement, and a lifelong East Baltimore City resident. My job is to support patients on ventilators and aid them with their mobility.

I urge you to issue a favorable report on bill 25-0036, with **no weakening** amendments, because it's time for Baltimore City's hospitals and universities to pay their fair share. We know that they have the money: their CEOs make millions, and they pay expensive lobbyists to oppose hospital safe staffing initiatives. At the same time, the people who keep hospitals running are overworked and experiencing burnout. That's only getting worse as the cost of living increases.

Workers face these same challenges at so many Baltimore City anchor hospitals, not just the one I work at. If these institutions want to be a part of our community, they should make voluntary PILOT contributions that the city can use to benefit everyone. More money in the city's general fund can be used to make people's lives better, especially for our young people, like investing in parks and recreation. That's something I'd like to see again with greater revenue from a renegotiated PILOT agreement.

The PILOT task force should include equal representation of union members like me. Union workers are *not* at-will employees, which helps us be able to speak more freely to hold institutions accountable. And workers are the majority: we are Baltimore. We live it and see it every day. Our city can become a better place to live, but only with our input. Please vote YES on this bill. Thank you.