



A Union of Professionals
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**AFT-Maryland President Marietta English Statement on Election of Delegate
Adrienne Jones to Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates**

Baltimore, MD- It is an honor and pleasure to congratulate Del. Adrienne Jones on being elected Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates. Her historic election is a shattering of not one but two glass ceilings. She is the first African-American and first woman to be Speaker of the House of Delegates. In today's climate it is important now more than ever that young African-American girls see images of themselves reflected in leadership so they too can dream and aspire to those positions. This day is monumental because it shows that the truly talented leaders of our state will go as far as their gifts will take them regardless of race or gender.

The example shown by the Democratic caucus on political unity is a lesson in compromise that we all can learn from. Del. Jones, as Speaker Pro Tem, has been a beacon of professionalism and demonstrated the type of leadership qualities that bring differing parties together for a shared common goal of a prosperous Maryland. We look forward to working with her to ensure Maryland's children and educational professionals are always prioritized and to partner with her on investment in public employees so they can continue to provide Marylanders with high quality services.

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