



NFIB-Maryland – 60 West St., Suite 101 – Annapolis, MD 21401 – www.NFIB.com/Maryland

TO: Senate Finance Committee

FROM: NFIB – Maryland

DATE: February 13, 2020

RE: **OPPOSE SENATE BILL 232** – Procurement – Prevailing Wage - Applicability

On behalf of Maryland’s small businesses, NFIB-Maryland opposes Senate Bill 232 – legislation that would require non-State public work projects, other than public schools, that are funded with any State dollars to pay workers the prevailing wage.

Our members, specifically those in the trades are concerned about how such a change could impact their ability to bid on public works contracts. The current prevailing wage law allows some room for small contractors and subcontractors to compete.

The State’s prevailing wage requirements are cumbersome and costly. What’s more, the penalty provisions can be devastating to a small contractor who may innocently misclassify an employee for example.

It is those ancillary costs which would now apply to many more projects under SB232 are the reason **NFIB must oppose SB232** and requests an unfavorable report.