



MARYLAND CENTER *for*  
**CONSTRUCTION**  
EDUCATION & INNOVATION

February 12, 2020

The Honorable Anne Kaiser  
Chair, House Ways and Means Committee  
House Office Building, Room 151  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: Letter of Support for HB 0548, CTE Education – Training on Soft Business Skills

Dear Delegate Stein:

Please accept this letter of support by the Maryland Center for Construction Education and Innovation, Inc. (MCCEI) for HB 0548. MCCEI is a 501-c-3 based in Towson, MD, with the mission to develop, promote, and connect career opportunities in the built environment. We are a partnership between industry, education, and government working on improving education pathways for people interested in design, engineering, construction management and skilled trade careers, promoting the industry to attract new talent, and the addition and expansion of post-secondary programs.

MCCEI is in favor of legislation that falls within these categories and it is our belief that when passed, HB 0548 will do just that. Through its interactions with industry from all sectors of the built environment, the common theme that owners and hiring managers raise is the lack of presentation, reading, writing, communication etiquette and professional setting conduct of young people entering the workforce. While many of these skills are implied in every class, having a class dedicated to proper conduct and communication, and the importance and pitfalls in business settings would go a long way to improving employability of Maryland's future workforce.

The Built Environment industry (design, engineering and construction) has acute existing and projected workforce needs and many times it is these professional business skills that make the difference between job offers and terminations. MCCEI thanks you for your consideration and urges your colleagues to pass HB 0548. Please feel free to contact me if there are any other questions or comments or if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert M. Aydukovic".

Robert M. Aydukovic  
President