

House Bill 1321

Labor and Employment - Right to Work

Iron Workers Employers Association

Fred H. Coddling

I am Fred Coddling and I represent the Iron Workers Employers Association (IWEA) whose Membership includes companies that perform work throughout Maryland. These companies also have main offices and projects throughout Maryland and employ substantial numbers of Maryland residents.

Employees of a union firm in Maryland currently have secured higher wages and greater benefits in our industry. Those benefits include pensions, annuities, health and welfare coverage and other beneficial programs. They also provide access to apprentice and journeyman upgrading programs. Those programs emphasize safety training not just for the individual, for his fellow union members and the general public as well. Those are secured through negotiations and collective bargaining. The employees enjoy these benefits and better wages as a result of their union leadership and payment of union dues. We feel that it is right that those who enjoy those benefits should also pay their union dues for those services.

Accordingly, the Iron Workers Employers Association opposes HB1321.



Fred H. Coddling