

LILY QI
Legislative District 15
Montgomery County

Economic Matters Committee

Chair
Business Regulation Subcommittee



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 223
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3090 · 301-858-3090
800-492-7122 Ext. 3090
Lily.Qi@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 7th, 2023

Dear Members of Economic Matters Committee,

HB 132 increases the licensing requirements needed to obtain a Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR) journeyman license in Maryland. Specifically, it increases the number of years an applicant must be licensed as an apprentice from three to four and increasing hours of training needed from 1,875 to 6,000.

While this may seem like a dramatic increase from what the journeyman license requirements are now, it aims to bring these requirements closer to the Department of Labor and the Maryland Apprenticeship and Training Program (MTAP) current registered apprentice program. Those who aim to get their journeyman's license through the MTAP registered apprentice program must complete 8,000 hours of training and 576 hours of related instruction.

Those going through the non-registered apprentice route must pass a written exam. Data from the Department of Labor shows that of the applicants who sit for this exam, only 44% receive a passing score. By increasing the number of licensed years and hours of training needed, those who are sitting for the exam will hopefully be more prepared, giving the exam a higher passing rate.

Like all industries, HVACR technology continues to advance to meet the need of increased energy standards, building codes, and safety regulations. This is a commonsense change in licensing requirements, and the cross-file of this bill has already been unanimously passed by the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lily Qi'.

Delegate Lily Qi