SB 172 Support.docx.pdfUploaded by: Brandon Butler Position: FAV



MWA Members

Anne Arundel County
Anne Arundel Workforce
Development Corporation

Kirkland Murray, Executive Director

Baltimore City

Mayor's Office of Employment Development Jason Perkins-Cohen, Director

Baltimore County

Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development Leonard Howie, Director

Carroll County

Carroll County Business / Employment Resource Center Heather Lee Powell, Manager

Frederick County

Frederick County Workforce Services Michelle Day, Director

Howard County

Howard County Office of Workforce Development Francine Trout, Director

Lower Shore

Lower Shore Workforce Alliance (Somerset, Wicomico, & Worcester, Counties) Leslie Porter-Cabell, Workforce Director

Montgomery County

WorkSource Montgomery, Inc. Anthony Featherstone, Executive Director

Prince George's County

Prince George's County Workforce Development Board Walter Simmons, Executive Director

Southern Maryland

Southern Maryland Job Source (Calvert, Charles, & St. Mary's Counties) Ruthy Davis, Director

Susquehanna Region

Susquehanna Workforce Network, Inc. (Cecil & Harford Counties) Kimberly Justus, Executive Director

Upper Shore

Upper Shore Workforce Investment Board (Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, & Talbot Counties) Dan Schneckenburger, Executive Director

Western Maryland

Western Maryland Consortium (Allegany, Garrett & Washington Counties) Deborah Gilbert, Executive Director February 6, 2023

The Honorable Melony Griffith, Chair Senate Finance Committee 3 East Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair Griffith and Members:

The Maryland Workforce Association, an association of the 13 public workforce system directors of Maryland's 13 Local Workforce Development Boards and Areas, would like to express its SUPPORT of **Senate Bill 172**: **Employment for Minors - Opportunities for Work**. We also would like to thank Senator Rosapepe for sponsoring this important bill.

The local workforce systems in each community in Maryland provides opportunities for both youth and adult job seekers. Placing Maryland's youth on a career path while they are still in high school is critical and opens the student up to the world of work. This legislation allows local workforce areas information on students in their communities that are entering the world of work by obtaining a work permit through the Maryland Department of Labor. This information is critical so that the workforce board, apprenticeship sponsors, and others can ensure that the student has what he or she needs to thrive.

Again, we thank the sponsor for offering this thoughtful piece of legislation and respectfully request the Committee's support of this measure. If you have any questions about the Association's support of this measure, please contact Brandon Butler, Maryland Workforce Association's Executive Director at brandon@pinnaclestrategiesconsulting.com.

Sincerely,

The Maryland Workforce Association

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EMPLOY PRINCE GEORGE'S

1801 McCormick Drive, Suite 400, Largo, Maryland 20774 www.employpg.org Walter L. Simmons, President

Senate Bill 172

Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment

Date: February 9, 2023 **Position: Favorable**

This testimony is offered on behalf of Employ Prince George's, the principal workforce development entity for Prince George's County that provides nationally recognized community and workforce development programming. At Employ Prince George's, we deliver a demand-driven workforce system that generates economic mobility for workers, delivers qualified workers to businesses, and drives economic success for every Prince George's County resident and businesses.

To facilitate connection to gainful employment and career training opportunities, Senate Bill 172 (SB 172) directs the Commissioner of Labor (Commissioner), upon receiving consent, to share certain contact information with local workforce development boards (LWDBs) for minors that have a work permit and are at least 16 years old. Established in federal law by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, LWDBs provide career and technical education through a diverse portfolio of workforce development programs that prepare every Marylander to succeed in today's economy.

As the administrative and fiscal agent of the Prince George's County Workforce Development Board, Employ Prince George's is responsible for operating the Prince George's County Public Workforce System. Under the leadership of Employ Prince George's, the Prince George's County Public Workforce System serves over 25,000 job seekers and businesses annually.

LWDBs connect Marylanders to sustainable careers, provide excellent career and technical training, and offer opportunities to join apprenticeship programs. By expanding awareness of the critical workforce development programs being offered at LWDBs, SB 172 helps ensure that more Marylanders are connected to gainful employment and rewarding career opportunities. For the aforementioned reasons, Employ Prince George's respectfully requests a favorable report from the Committee.

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Position: FAV



JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR. County Executive

JENNIFER AIOSA Director of Government Affairs

AMANDA KONTZ CARR Legislative Officer

JOSHUA M. GREENBERG Associate Director of Government Affairs

BILL NO.: SB 172

TITLE: Employment for Minors - Opportunities for Work

SPONSOR: Senator Rosapepe

COMMITTEE: Finance

POSITION: SUPPORT

DATE: February 9, 2023

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 172 – Employment for Minors - Opportunities for Work. This legislation would require the Department of Labor, with parental consent, to make directory information of students with a work permit available to apprenticeship providers, employers, education institutions, and local workforce boards.

Baltimore County supports enhancing and expanding resources that connect students with employment opportunities and prepare young residents for entering the workforce. For many students just beginning to pick their career paths, identifying and connecting with the appropriate resources for training can prove challenging. For businesses who seek to implement workforce training services, there does not currently exist a statewide directory for eligible student workers.

Senate Bill 172 would bring both parties together by collecting and providing a list of eligible students looking for employment opportunities to employers and local workforce boards. By sharing directory information with local workforce boards who already maintain close relationships with local businesses, this legislation creates a process that leverages existing partnerships to ensure information reaches as many relevant stakeholders as possible.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 172. For more information, please contact Jenn Aiosa, Director of Government Affairs at jaiosa@baltimorecountymd.gov.

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Position: FAV



February 1, 2023

SUPPORT – SB172 - Employment for Minors - Opportunities for Work

Dear Senators:

On behalf of the Maryland Association of Local Management Boards, I am writing in support of SB172. Local Management Boards in each county and jurisdiction in the State of Maryland conduct needs assessments of their communities. One of our focuses is to work with youth who may have become disconnected from opportunities and youth who are disproportionately involved in the juvenile justice system, creating barriers to economic opportunities. Any legislation that can promote opportunities and reduce barriers to employment is important. Our goal is to connect them to potential career and job opportunities as well as job training initiatives enabling support for themselves economically.

SB172 will allow for a minor with a work permit to have their information shared with other agencies for more opportunities to advance. Disconnected youth are often struggling with multiple family and economic issues that act as barriers to success. They may need the help of multiple agencies to address each issue. This collaboration among and between agencies is so important. Sharing relevant information, with permission from the youth and their family, will give youth opportunities early in life to move towards success.

SB172 also promotes youth apprenticeships to prepare them for well-paying careers in a variety of businesses. We urge you to support SB172 to give youth more opportunities to work.

Sincerely,

Pamela M. Brown, PhD

Legislative Chair

Maryland Association of Local Management Boards