

## Maryland House of Delegates - Ways and Means Committee

Chair: Vanessa E. Atterbeary Vice Chair: Alonzo T. Washington

## House Bill 0143 - Career and Technical Education Committee - Alterations

## **Position: Support**

Electrical Workers Insulators Boilermakers United Association Roofers Cement Masons Teamsters Laborers Bricklayers Ironworkers Sheet Metal Workers Elevator Constructors Painters

Carpenters

The Baltimore DC Metro Building Trades Council supports HB 0143. The inclusion of having skilled trades schools as an alternative to a 2 year or 4 year college would help fill the labor shortage in those fields . The Baltimore DC Metro Building Trades Council is comprised of 25 Building and Construction Trade Unions. All offer an apprenticeship. These three to five year apprenticeship scholarships are awarded to thousands of deserving individuals every year. We consider them to be scholarships as there is no tuition cost to the apprentice. The Baltimore DC Metro Building Trades Council affiliates spend \$24 million dollars collectively on apprenticeship training annually. No student loan debt, for many individuals entering into an apprenticeship and learning a skilled trade with graduated pay increases, health benefits and retirement savings and pensions it is a means to a middle class career.

We urge the Committee for a favorable report. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeffry Guido

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