

MARYLAND WORKFORCE ASSOCIATION

Kirkland Murray, *President*
Brandon Butler, *Executive Director*
www.marylandworkforceassociation.org

MWA Members

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Anne Arundel Workforce
Development Corporation
Kirkland Murray, *Executive Director*

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Baltimore County Department of
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Carroll County Workforce
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Heather Lee Powell, *Manager*

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Frederick County Workforce
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Michelle Day, *Director*

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Howard County Office of Workforce
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Montgomery, Inc. Anthony
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Dan Schneckenburger, *Executive
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Western Maryland Consortium
(Allegany, Garrett &
Washington Counties)
Deborah Gilbert, *Executive Director*

February 5, 2023

The Honorable Brian Feldman, Chair
Senate Education, Energy and Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Feldman and Members:

The Maryland Workforce Association, an association of the thirteen Local Workforce Development Boards, would like to express its SUPPORT of Senate Bill 33: More Opportunities for Career-Focused Students Act of 2024. We also would like to thank Senator Jim Rosapepe for his steadfast support of Maryland's Public Workforce System and its 13 Local Workforce Development Boards.

The bill seeks to establish a pipeline of talent by providing Registered Apprenticeship and employment opportunities for high school students. The bill also seeks to create parity between Registered Apprenticeships and other post-secondary pathways, by requiring certain school systems to pay for Registered Apprenticeship entrance exams if the school system also provides the same benefit for other exams like advanced placement.

As you know, Registered Apprenticeships provide youth and adults with the ability to earn while they learn. While the workforce system has worked to grow the number of apprenticeships in Maryland, there is much more work to be done. 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 mwaexecdirector@gmail.com.

Sincerely,


Kirkland Murray, President
Maryland Workforce Association