

SB781_Testimony for Senator James

Uploaded by: Senator James

Position: FAV

MARY-DULANY JAMES
Legislative District 34
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Judicial Proceedings Committee
Executive Nominations Committee

Senate Chair
Joint Committee on
Children, Youth, and Families

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony of Senator Mary-Dulany James

In Favor of SB 781 - Economic Development - Regional Additive Manufacturing

Partnership of Maryland – Alterations

Before the Finance Committee on February 27th, 2024

Madame Chair, Madame Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

This is a very simple bill that originated from a recent request of the RAMP MD organization, which stands for the Regional Additive Manufacturing Partnership of Maryland. RAMP MD is an entity that I helped create in 2014, and it was modeled after other states that had already leveraged the benefits of military installations within their borders. Thus, RAMP MD has allowed for technology transfer from Aberdeen Proving Ground to local businesses to create in-demand skills training and jobs in Harford County and across the region. RAMP MD would like to replace the word “Additive” in their name with “Advanced” to more accurately describe the scope of work that they seek to do.

In addition to being renamed the Regional *Advanced* Manufacturing Partnership of Maryland, the RAMP MD Fund will also be updated to reflect this alteration in name. Furthermore, the bill makes similar changes to the purposes, membership, and duties of RAMP MD to incorporate advanced manufacturing instead of solely additive manufacturing. I urge a favorable report for SB 781.

SB781 Favorable W Amendments.pdf

Uploaded by: Rico Albacarys

Position: FWA

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS - LOCAL UNION No. 24

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Written Testimony of
Rico Albacarys, Assistant Business Agent, IBEW LOCAL 24
Before the Senate Finance Committee On
SB 781 Economic Development – Regional Additive Manufacturing Partnership of
Maryland – Alterations

Favorable With Amendments

February 26, 2024

Madam Chair Beidle and Committee Members,

I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 781, which aims to promote advanced manufacturing in our region through the Regional Advanced Manufacturing Partnership of Maryland. However, I am concerned about the lack of representation for labor on the Executive Board of the Partnership.

While I appreciate the proposed changes and their intention to advance manufacturing, it's crucial to ensure that labor and workers' interests are adequately represented. As it stands, the Board lacks representation from labor organizations or workers themselves. Considering the significant impact of Partnership decisions on the workforce, it's imperative to include labor representation on the Board. I urge you to amend the legislation to designate seats for labor representatives on the Executive Board. Including labor representatives will ensure a more balanced decision-making process, safeguard workers' rights, and bring valuable expertise to discussions on workforce development, training, and safety.

Involving labor in the Partnership will foster collaboration between stakeholders, leading to more sustainable economic development in our region. I hope you take this amendment into consideration.

Sincerely,

Rico Albacarys
Assistant Business Agent IBEW Local 24