



February 27, 2024

Judiciary Committee
Delegate Luke Clippinger
Room 101
House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: HB 1405 – Judiciary – Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services –
Incarcerated Individual Apprenticeship Program – **Support**

Dear Delegate Clippinger:

HB 1405 aims to develop and offer apprenticeships in skilled trades for incarcerated individuals, providing them with valuable job skills and the opportunity to earn income upon release. This program provides incarcerated individuals with opportunities to develop marketable job skills and earn income upon release.

We commend the key provisions of the bill, particularly the establishment of an independent apprenticeship program, prioritization of employment in skilled trades, flexibility for employers to participate, and determination of fair wages.

We believe that the Incarcerated Individual Apprenticeship Program has the potential to positively impact both incarcerated individuals and our community by providing pathways to gainful employment, community integration, and reduced recidivism rates.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of nearly 700 members, supports this bill and therefore, requests that you give it a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Mike McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Senator Justin Ready
Delegate April Rose