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The Voice of Merit Construction

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TO: JUDICIARY COMMITTEE FROM: ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS

RE: H.B. 194 – INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Associated Builders and Contractors of Maryland support HB 194, which requires the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to establish an apprenticeship program in skilled trades for incarcerated individuals.

This legislation offers a crucial opportunity to returning citizens and will increase the pool of skilled trade workers in Maryland.

By providing incarcerated individuals with valuable job skills, HB 194 directly addresses the root causes of recidivism. When individuals are equipped with marketable skills, they are more likely to find employment upon release, increasing their economic stability and reducing their likelihood of returning to the criminal justice system.

HB 194 will provide a skilled workforce pipeline, that will benefit the state of Maryland. Businesses will have access to a pool of trained and motivated workers, while the state will reap the economic benefits of a more productive workforce.

On behalf of the over 1,500 ABC members in Maryland, we respectfully request a favorable report on H.B. 194.

Director of Government Affairs,
Matthew Teffeau

