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**By: Delegates Poole, Taylor, Donoghue, McKee, Edwards, and Branch**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 1997

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 4, 1997

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Construction Apprenticeship Assistance Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Construction Apprenticeship Assistance Program in  
4 the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; requiring the Division of  
5 Employment and Training to administer the Program; requiring the Program to  
6 award certain grants as provided by the State budget and based on certain criteria;  
7 authorizing the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to adopt certain  
8 regulations; requiring the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to adopt  
9 certain regulations; requiring the grants to be distributed at a certain time and to a  
10 certain extent; and generally relating to the Construction Apprenticeship Assistance  
11 Program.

12 BY adding to

13 Article - Labor and Employment

14 Section 11-601 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 6. Miscellaneous Programs"

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (1991 Volume and 1996 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

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1           **Article - Labor and Employment**

2           SUBTITLE 6. MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS.

3 11-601.

4           (A) IN THIS SECTION, A "PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITY" MEANS A PERSON THAT  
5 THE MARYLAND APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING COUNCIL APPROVES UNDER §  
6 11-405(B) OF THIS TITLE.

7           (B) THERE IS A CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICESHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN  
8 THE DEPARTMENT.

9           (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICESHIP ASSISTANCE  
10 PROGRAM IS TO DEVELOP A WELL-TRAINED, PRODUCTIVE CONSTRUCTION  
11 WORKFORCE WHICH MEETS THE NEEDS OF THE STATE'S ECONOMY.

12           (D) THE DIVISION SHALL ADMINISTER THE CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICESHIP  
13 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

14           (E) AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET, THE CONSTRUCTION  
15 APPRENTICESHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SHALL AWARD GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE  
16 PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITIES THAT OPERATE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS IN THE  
17 STATE.

18           (F) THE SECRETARY MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT ARE NECESSARY TO  
19 CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

20           (G) BY REGULATION, THE SECRETARY SHALL ESTABLISH:

21                   (1) CRITERIA TO DETERMINE THE ELIGIBILITY OF PRIVATE SECTOR  
22 ENTITIES; AND

23                   (2) AN APPLICATION PROCESS FOR DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY.

24           (H) GRANTS THAT THE CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICESHIP ASSISTANCE  
25 PROGRAM AWARDS UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE BASED ON:

26                   (1) THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN A PROGRAM OPERATED BY AN  
27 ELIGIBLE PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITY; AND

28                   (2) DEMONSTRATED SHORTAGES OF SKILLED CONSTRUCTION  
29 WORKERS IN THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE PROGRAM IS LOCATED.

30           (I) THE GRANTS SHALL CONSIST OF A MAXIMUM OF \$1,000 FOR EACH  
31 APPRENTICE IN AN ELIGIBLE PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITY.

32           (J) IN MAKING GRANTS, THE CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICESHIP ASSISTANCE  
33 PROGRAM SHALL GIVE PRIORITY TO APPLICANTS IN COUNTIES WITH THE HIGHEST  
34 DEMONSTRATED SHORTAGE OF SKILLED WORKERS.

35           (K) THE CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICESHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SHALL  
36 DISTRIBUTE A GRANT AWARDED TO A PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITY:

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1 (1) AT THE END OF A PROGRAM YEAR; AND

2 (2) ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT EACH APPRENTICE HAS COMPLETED  
3 THE PROGRAM YEAR.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
5 October 1, 1997.