

February 14, 2020

The Honorable Anne R. Kaiser  
Chair, House Ways and Means Committee  
House Office Building, Room 131  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: Support of House Bill 220 (Qualified Maryland Housing Tax Credit)**

Dear Chairwoman Kaiser:

The Maryland Building Industry Association (MBIA), representing 100,000 employees of the building industry across the State of Maryland, supports House Bill 220 (Qualified Maryland Housing Tax Credit).

This measure extends a tax credit for businesses employing apprentices, which is beneficial to our industry.

Many skilled workers left the industry during the last recession and never returned. Compounding this problem, the younger generation of soon-to-be workers lacks the opportunity to learn about the trades and gain experience before entering the workforce. Home building slows without a strong labor force, keeping families from building strong communities and stunting economic progress in the State.

Extending this tax credit incentivize businesses to continue to employ apprentices, which enables students and potential workers learn new skills, enter the job market and earn a sustainable income, and contribute to the economic development of the State.

For these reasons, MBIA respectfully requests the Committee give this measure a favorable report. Thank you for your consideration.

For more information about this position, please contact Lori Graf at 410-800-7327 or [lgraf@marylandbuilders.org](mailto:lgraf@marylandbuilders.org).

cc: House Ways and Means Committee Members