



Eastern Atlantic States
REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

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TESTIMONY

POSITION: SUPPORT / FAVORABLE

HB 1237 – Budget Bill – Appropriations Statement – Memorandum of Understanding for
State Personnel

Honorable Delegates:

On behalf of the Eastern Atlantic Regional Council of Carpenters (EASRCC), our 41,000 of the most skilled construction workers and apprentices in the nation, and including some 3,000 carpenters right here in the State of Maryland, please accept this letter in strong support of HB1237.

This fiscally prudent legislation proposes a necessary amendment to the Maryland Constitution, relating to the appropriate funding of contracts. For too long, we have witnessed an ongoing cycle of unfunded mandates across state government. When those mandates impact the very workers who are responsible for the maintenance and operation of governmental services, both workers and the public pay the price in terms of unfair wage and working conditions, and diminished substandard services.

This legislation specifically addresses that problem by requiring the Governor to send, in his budget, the appropriations necessary to fund the contracts for state workers, either through negotiations or binding arbitration.

We believe that it is critically necessary, and we ask for a favorable committee report.