



District Council No. 51  
4700 Boston Way  
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## ONE VOICE

Representing:  
Protective and Decorative  
Coatings Applicators  
Painters  
Decorators  
Wall Coverers  
Drywall Finishers  
Glaziers  
Architectural Metal Workers  
Glass Workers  
Civil Service Workers  
Shipyards Workers  
Maintenance Workers  
Metal Polishers  
Metalizers  
Bridge Painters  
Riggers  
Tank Painters  
Marine Painters  
Containment Workers  
Lead Abatement Workers  
Sand Blasters  
Water Blasters  
Sign Painters  
Paint Makers

## ONE AGENDA

Affiliated Local Unions  
Local Union 1  
Local Union 368  
Local Union 474  
Local Union 890  
Local Union 963  
Local Union 1100  
Local Union 1846  
Local Union 1937

Over 100 Years Serving  
Maryland  
Virginia  
Washington, DC



# INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PAINTERS AND ALLIED TRADES, AFL-CIO DISTRICT COUNCIL NO. 51

January 28, 2021

House of Delegates Economic Matters Committee:  
Dereck E. Davis, Chair  
Kathleen M. Dumais, Vice Chair  
House Office Building, Room 231  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Honorable Members of the Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Brian Courtien, and I am the Business Manager of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council 51 covering the Maryland, Virginia, and District of Columbia jurisdictions. We represent over 1,500 members in the finishing trades of the construction industry.

**I want to thank the Committee Members for taking the time to read of SUPPORT of HB 037 – Procurement Prevailing Wage Applicability.**

I write to you today to urge you to vote in support of HB 037. Maryland has the highest prevailing wage threshold in the Nation. Maryland's current monetary threshold of \$500,000.00, the highest prevailing wage threshold of any State and well above the Federal Davis-Bacon threshold of \$2,000.00, is then coupled with a 50% of State funding requirement creating a threshold that can be in the millions of dollars. Eliminating the percentage requirement will create a more level playing field and competitive bid process for contractors when requests for proposals are issued by the Maryland Board of Public Works.

Majority of our signatory contractors are small businesses, and they deserve the opportunity to be competitive on these projects. Prevailing wage requires contractors to increase local hires with registered apprentices and journey workers and compensate them with fair wages and fringe benefits. Our signatory contractors pay these wages and benefits, provide health care and pension for them and their families.

In addition, we participate in a helmets and hard hats that train veterans in our industries to work in local construction projects. They are part of the Joint Apprenticeship Training Council with labor and management funding our apprenticeship programs at no cost to our apprentices and setting a gold standard for apprenticeship programs throughout the State. Prevailing wages used for State funded projects provide an influx of money into local communities and into the more rural parts of Maryland. Taxpayer dollars need to be used to maintain the economic standard of the communities where State funded projects are being constructed. Eliminating the percentage will revitalize our local economy and provides workers and contractors the opportunity to work near their home.

Please vote favorably on bill HB 037.

Thank you,

Brian Courtien  
Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer  
IUPAT DC 51