



Maryland Senate - Finance Committee

Chair: Delores G. Kelley

Vice Chair: Brian J. Feldman

Senate Bill 035 – Procurement Prevailing Wage Applicability

Position: Support

Electrical Workers
Insulators
Boilermakers
United Association
Roofers
Cement Masons
Teamsters
Laborers
Bricklayers
Ironworkers
Sheet Metal Workers
Elevator Constructors
Painters
Operating Engineers
Carpenters

The Baltimore DC Metro Building Trades Council supports SB 035. 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 \$2000.00, is then coupled with a 50% of State funding requirement creating a threshold that can be in the millions of dollars. In eliminating the percentage requirement it will create a more level and competitive bid process for contractors when requests for proposals are issued by the Maryland Board of Public Works. Most of our signatory contractors are small businesses with many being 5 to 10 person shops. They deserve the opportunity to be competitive on these projects. Prevailing wage requires contractors to employ registered apprentices and journeypersons that are compensated with fair wages and fringe benefits that include defined pensions and health insurance for themselves and their families with no pre-existing conditions. They are also part of the Joint Apprenticeship Training Council with labor and management funding our apprenticeship programs at no cost to our apprentices and setting the 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 MD. It provides a means of employment that can keep younger residents from having to leave their homes to find work in D.C., Baltimore or out of state. Tax payer dollars need to be used to maintain the economic standard in the communities where State funded projects are being constructed.

We urge the Committee for a favorable report. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeffry Guido

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