

Maryland House of Delegates Economic Matters Committee

Chair: C.T. Wilson

Vice Chair: Brian M. Crosby

House Bill 611 Procurement - Prevailing Wage -Applicability

Position: SUPPORT

The Baltimore DC Metro Building Trades Council supports House Bill 611. Service maintenance work requires the same skilled craft professionalism equal to that used for new construction. These highly skilled crafts men and women are vital to the maintenance and preservation of our buildings and building systems for decades of purposeful use. Equally important is prevailing wage supports apprenticeship. Building Trades Unions in partnership with our signatory contractors as Joint Apprenticeship Training Councils manage \$26,000,000.00 annually in providing scholarships for apprentices. The largest post high school scholarship program in Maryland. Earn while you learn with no student debt. House Bill 611 will ensure qualified, safe, highly skilled craft professionals on public projects and protect local communities from the deterioration of local labor standards. Our members represent the safest, most highly skilled and productive construction and maintenance workforce in Maryland. Without prevailing wage laws contractors will be further hard-pressed to find qualified, skilled workers to accept jobs with unfair wages and little to no benefits. Prevailing wage laws are vital in the construction and service maintenance industry – and, more importantly, when these laws are protected, America's middle class is empowered.

We ask the committee for a favorable vote. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Jeffry Guido

Baltimore-DC Metro Building Trades Council

Electrical Workers

Insulators

Boilermakers

United Association

Plumbers & Gas Fitters

Sprinkler Fitters

Steam Fitters

Roofers

Cement Masons

Teamsters

Laborers

Bricklayers

Ironworkers

Sheet Metal Workers

Elevator Constructors

Painters

Operating Engineers

Carpenters