



*Plumbers & Steamfitters  
United Association  
Local Union No. 489*

2 Park Street, Cumberland, Maryland 21502

P: 301-722-8515 F: 301-759-4168

SCOTT UPOLE

Business Manager & Financial Secretary

JUSTIN BROWN

President

DENTON SHRIVER

Vice-President

JASON LEITH

Recording Secretary

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT UPOLE, BUSINESS MANAGER AT PLUMBERS & STEAMFITTERS  
UA LOCAL 489

SB259 / HB611, EXPANDING PREVAILING WAGES TO MECHANICAL SERVICE  
CONTRACTS  
FAVRABLE

Members of the Senate Finance Committee and House Economic Matters Committee:

As Business Manager of Plumbers & Steamfitters UA Local 489, I'm writing in strong support of SB259 / HB 611, because there is a great need to expand prevailing wages to mechanical systems service contracts.

At Local 489, we do both construction and service work. We understand the value of prevailing wages in incentivizing good jobs, benefits, and outstanding workforce training through our apprenticeship programs. But we can and must do better by expanding the prevailing wage programs. That's exactly what this bill does.

Just like the federal government does through the McNamar-O'Hara Service Contracts Act of 1965, this legislation recognizes the importance of prevailing wages in empowering and uplifting workers, it also recognized the difference between construction contracts and service contracts, in that they have completely different dollar thresholds. Service work is done through very small contracts, averaging \$3,000-\$5,000, while construction work is often in the millions of dollars.

This legislation is critical in bringing more contractors into the state prevailing wage system by including mechanical service contacts, which benefits everyone.

On behalf of me and my members, please support SB259 and HB611, and I ask for a favorable committee report.

Kindly,

Scott Upole

Business Manager

Plumbers and Steamfitters LU #489