



LECET

MID-ATLANTIC REGION

MID-ATLANTIC LABORERS – EMPLOYERS COOPERATION AND EDUCATION TRUST

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Tuesday, February 15, 2022

MARSHALL BROWN
Director

The Honorable Delores Kelley
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
Miller Senate Office Building - 3 East
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

LABOR
TRUSTEES

**SUBJECT: SB 418 – Energy Generation, Transmission, and Storage Projects –
Required Community Benefit Agreement and Labor Standards
Position – Favorable**

DENNIS L. MARTIRE
Chairman

Dear Chair Kelley and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

PHILIP AMERIS, SR.
CRAIG HARVEY
RYAN BOYER
ANTHONY J. SEIWELL
DAVE L. ALLISON

It is an honor to submit written testimony in support of SB 418. My name is Marshall Brown, and I am the Director of the Mid-Atlantic Laborers-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust, or LECET for short.

MANAGEMENT
TRUSTEES

LECET brings the Laborers Mid- Atlantic Region of LiUNA and its signatory contractors together to address issues of importance to both laborers and their employers. Currently, we represent more than 35,000 laborers in the Mid-Atlantic Region and more than 200 contractors. Through LECET, laborers and contractors work as a team to secure projects and jobs, increase union-sector market share, develop a workforce, and advance shared market-related interests.

MARY K. PRIM
Co-Chairman

LECET support SB 418 because it will benefit both our members and our contractors. The bill will help our members because it encourages local hiring, both for residents and for businesses, as well as training and safety protocols. SB 418 will help our contractors because it will establish prevailing wage on renewable energy projects. This will level the playing field and provide an opportunity for the high-road contractors LECET represents to bid and win work because wage requirements are set and it makes it harder for low road contractors to win work by lowering wages.

JOSEPH M. CATENA
STEPHEN T. KIMBALL
JAMES P. MCNELIS
MIKE TOKARCHIC

Attached to my testimony are a letters from LECET contractors who want you to know they support SB 418.

Please vote favorably on SB 418.

ATTACHMENTS





P 973.579.4100
F 973.579.4105

carsoncorporation.net

171 Route 94
Lafayette, NJ 07848

February 15, 2022

The Honorable Delores Kelley
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
Miller Senate Office Building - 3 East
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Statement of Chris Simpson, Carson Corporation
on
SB 418 – Energy Generation, Transmission, and Storage
Projects – Required Community Benefit Agreement and
Labor Standards
Position - Support

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a written statement in support of SB 418.

My name is Chris Simpson. I am the Vice President of Civil Construction at Carson Corporation. Carson Corporation specializes in directional drilling and civil construction. We own and maintain over 75 pieces of earth moving equipment, and earthwork, utilities, paving, retaining walls, concrete and curbing are all performed with our own crews.

Carson Corporation has worked on numerous solar farm projects. We are a union company, and therefore, provide our construction workforce with family-sustaining wages and benefits that include family health insurance and a pension.

Carson Corporation supports SB 418. From a contractors' perspective, requiring prevailing wage on renewable energy projects is very helpful. That's because prevailing wage requirements level the playing field for reputable, high-road contractors like Carson Corporation. Prevailing wage prevents low-road contractors from undercutting high-road contractors committed to paying decent wages and benefits. Prevailing wage signals to high-road companies that they can compete for and win contracts.

Carson Corporation urges the committee to report favorably on SB 418.

Sincerely,

Chris Simpson
Vice President



Tuesday, February 15, 2022

The Honorable Delores Kelley

Chair, Senate Finance Committee

Miller Senate Office Building - 3 East

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: Support for SB 418 – Energy Generation, Transmission, and Storage Projects – Required
Community Benefit Agreement and Labor Standards**

Dear Chair Kelley and Members of the Finance Committee:

My Name is Jami Kirila. I am the owner of Kirila Earthworks, a WBE and MBE small business contractor based in Prince George's County. We specialize in sitework, stormwater, and utility projects throughout Maryland. We are proud to be a small company that helps create middle-class construction jobs for Maryland residents.

Kirila Earthworks supports SB 418, which would establish labor standards and community benefits agreements on Maryland energy generation projects 2 megawatts or greater.

As a small, Maryland-based construction contractor, I can tell you firsthand that requiring labor standards, especially prevailing wage, on energy generation projects will help my company compete and win work. That is because prevailing wage helps companies like Kirila Earthworks compete on a level playing field against companies that do not take care of their employees the way we do. On non-prevailing wage jobs, it is much harder for companies like mine to compete because low-road contractors will cut wages to the bone to try and win work.

My company is a great example of how prevailing wage builds value into infrastructure investment. Prevailing wage promotes the success of local contractors, employment growth for local construction workers, and helps build Maryland's economy.

We at Kirila Earthworks would love to grow our business in Maryland even more, and provide even more residents with quality, good-paying jobs. The passage of SB 418 will help us make that happen.

10201 Martin Luther King Jr. Highway, Suite 280
Bowie, MD, 20720
Phone: 301.453.6300 • Fax: 301-453-6301



Please report favorably on SB 418.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jami Kirila". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Jami Kirila, President

Kirila Earthworks Inc.

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