



**TESTIMONY OF DR. LUNIQUE ESTIME, ESTIME ENTERPRISES, INC.
HB145 / SB1 - STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT - PREVAILING WAGE -
STOP WORK ORDERS
FAVORABLE**

January 19, 2022

Hello, my name is Dr. Lunique Estime. I am an established certified Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) in Lanham, Maryland, and I strongly support HB145/SB1.

As an MBE, I am also a signatory contractor to the Carpenters union, and I hire union workers because I need the reliability and quality of the work done by these workers.

In a competitive bidding field, with high stakes projects, it's nearly impossible to compete with other contractors that underpay their workers, or cheat taxpayers by not complying with the law. It's also dangerous, and it's not right. Beyond that, from a purely business point of view, the stakes are just too high for me to be caught up in workplace or wage violations.

I have a lot invested in the reputation of my company. I started Estime Enterprises, Inc. in 1996, and have built a skilled team of professionals to provide excellent construction, construction management, facility maintenance, A&E, and telecommunication services to private corporations, State Governments, as well as Federal government agencies (civilian and military). Our team includes licensed professionals in the field of engineering, plumbing, heating, construction, and management. We handle projects of all kinds, sizes, and scopes whether it is setting up telecommunication towers, installing lines and antennas, or maintaining already-existing buildings.


To give you a sense of the scale, importance and security of our work, we provided the largest set of engineers in construction management services at the Ft. Belvoir Community Hospital, a state-of-the-art \$1.2 billion project designed to treat active and retired military personnel and their families. In addition, we Conducted the World Class Construction Initiative for the US Navy, and worked in association with Clark Construction on the new University of Maryland Regional Medical Center located in Largo, MD, constructing a 600,000 sq ft state of the art hospital.

As a proud MBE state and federal government contractor, I can tell you that we work hard, pay our taxes, and do the best job that we can.

It's hard enough being an MBE. but when my competitors cheat the system, we simply can't compete.

Please help us.

Thank You,


Lunique Estime
President

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