

.

## MARYLAND STATE & D.C. AFL-CIO

AFFILIATED WITH NATIONAL AFL-CIO

7 School Street • Annapolis, Maryland 21401-2096 Office. (410) 269-1940 • Fax (410) 280-2956

President

Donna S. Edwards

Secretary-Treasurer
Gerald W. Jackson

HB 405 – Income Tax – Mechanical Insulation Installation Tax Credit House Ways and Means Committee February 9, 2022

## **SUPPORT**

Donna S. Edwards
President
Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO

Madam Chair and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 405 – Income Tax – Mechanical Insulation Installation Tax Credit. My name is Donna S. Edwards, and I am the President of the Maryland State and District of Columbia AFL-CIO. On behalf of Maryland's 340,000 union members, I offer the following comments.

HB 405 recognizes the importance of insulation in achieving our energy efficiency goals, by incentivizing businesses to install mechanical insulation on a commercial or industrial building with a credit against the State income tax for us to 30% of the cost. Moreover, it requires that, in order to receive this credit, those businesses must have the mechanical insulation installed meeting the minimum American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-Conditioning Engineers standard for insulation. Applying the credit to this rigorous standard ensures that we are not wasting taxpayer dollars on shoddy workmanship, and that our goal of increased energy efficiency can be met. But this standard does not only benefit the taxpayer, but also the business paying for the installation. They can be comforted in the fact that they are getting the highest quality installation, reducing their overall energy costs, while also realizing a 30% cost reduction.

This bill is good for our environment, for workers, for businesses, and for our communities, and for these reasons we ask for a favorable report on HB 405.