

HB0541 - 2.17.22 -- Career and Technical Education

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Position: FAV



TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

HOUSE BILL 541 – CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE - ALTERATIONS

Sponsors – Delegate Qi, et al

February 17, 2022

**DONALD C. FRY
PRESIDENT & CEO
GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE**

Position: Support

House Bill 541 would expand the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee by adding two new members: a representative of career colleges and a representative of skilled trade organizations. In addition, the CTE committee would be required to develop a list of all skilled trade organization programs and career school programs in the state and provide the list to guidance counselors and public schools for distribution to students.

There is currently a skilled labor shortage in the United States. In 2020, the GBC Board of Directors highlighted that a skilled workforce is the key ingredient to a thriving economy and directed the organization to examine the workforce needs of the Greater Baltimore region over the next decade and make recommendations to ensure that the education and workforce development systems were prepared to meet those needs. The GBC's Preparing for the Future: A Regional Workforce Development Initiative was created to ensure that the region's high-growth industries have a pipeline of highly skilled workers who can contribute to future economic growth, and a report was released in late 2020 outlining recommendations to meet the needs. Since the report's issuance, the GBC has continued to regularly convene a diverse network of stakeholders to assist in implementation of the recommendations.

A number of the recommendations in the Preparing for the Future report involve increasing awareness of high-skilled, family-supporting wage jobs among high school students. Providing information on training options to students enables them to make an informed decision about the time and money they want to spend on training and education. Many students do not desire to attend college, but may not be aware of the myriad training opportunities that exist in Maryland.

In addition to its alignment with the GBC Preparing for the Future Report, House Bill 541 is consistent with one of the core pillars for a competitive business environment and job growth in the GBC report *Gaining A Competitive Edge: Keys to Economic Growth and Job Creation in Maryland*.

Workforce that is highly-educated and meets Maryland's business needs. Maryland's secondary and higher education institutions must offer access to quality instruction at all levels and cultivate a workforce that is well-suited to a modern economy and to the specific needs of Maryland's business sectors.

For these reasons, the Greater Baltimore Committee urges a favorable report on House Bill 541.

The Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) is a non-partisan, independent, regional business advocacy organization comprised of hundreds of businesses -- large, medium and small -- educational institutions, nonprofit organizations and foundations located in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard counties as well as Baltimore City. The GBC is a 67-year-old, private-sector membership organization with a rich legacy of working with government to find solutions to problems that negatively affect our competitiveness and viability.

GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE

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HB 541 Lincoln Tech Favorable.pdf

Uploaded by: Isaac Meyer

Position: FAV



House Bill 541
Career and Technical Education Committee – Alterations
FAVORABLE

Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary
Chair, Ways and Means Committee

Chairwoman Atterbeary, Vice-Chair Washington, and Committee Members:

On behalf of Lincoln Tech, we wish to offer our support of HB 541 – Career and Technical Education Committee – Alterations. Lincoln Tech has been domiciled in Maryland for 65 years. In that time, we have educated and prepared thousands of Marylanders for careers in the skilled trades. Our fields of study include automotive technology, welding, electrical, HVAC, and culinary arts and baking and pastry. In the last ten years, we have produced 4,483 credentialed alumni. In the reporting period ending June 2021, we placed 86 percent of our graduates into jobs in their field. Our college, and career schools and trade skilled programs alike, are the solution to meeting Maryland's skilled workforce gap and Senate Bill 478 can play a pivotal role.

Lincoln Tech regularly evaluates the workforce needs of Maryland and the United States and make programmatic adjustments to meet these workforce needs. No programmatic decision is made without a workforce assessment. A perfect example of this is welding, an industry facing a projected national shortage of 400,000 workers by 2024. In 2019, Lincoln Tech adapted its programmatic offerings and made significant capital investments to introduce a 10-month welding program. In the first year, we placed 100 percent of our credentialed graduates and the program continues to grow in enrollment every year. Lincoln Tech and similar schools can play a vital role sharing their workforce insights with the Career and Technical Education Committee to ensure the curriculum being introduced is maximized to meet the workforce needs of the state.

The average age of a Lincoln Tech student at the Columbia Campus is 24. Some of these students skew older from their military experience or they enroll to pursue a second career. However, many enroll later in life because they discovered the opportunity several years after they graduated high school.

There are currently 110,000 students in at least one CTE course. Much of the CTE programming can be continued at community college or a four-year college, however, many require enrollment in a skilled trade school or a career college. HB 541 ensures that students are provided with a list of all career colleges and skilled trade programs. While most will pursue a college education, we want to ensure students are aware of all post-secondary options available to them, whether it is with a career college or a skilled trade organization.

We thank you for your consideration of our testimony and urge a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Cory Hughes
Campus President

HB 541_MAACS_Favorable.pdf

Uploaded by: Isaac Meyer

Position: FAV

House Bill 541
Career and Technical Education Committee – Alterations
FAVORABLE

Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary
Chair, Ways and Means Committee

Chairwoman Atterbeary, Vice-Chair Washington, and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Career School (MAACS), we wish to offer our strong support of SB 478 – Career and Technical Education Committee – Alterations. Our members include career schools in the allied/medical health field, welding, HVAC, cosmetology, computer information and technology, aviation maintenance, and many more fields of study. Collectively, our members produce thousands of graduates each year with credentials that prepare them for immediate employment in fields that are currently facing extreme workforce pressures.

This bill works to solve two problems. First, we believe skilled trade organizations and career schools regularly evaluate workforce needs and make adjustments to programming to meet the needs of the workforce. However, these two stakeholders are not currently members of the Career and Technical Education Committee. This bill will allow for these stakeholders to share their information and perspectives with the other CTE Committee members to help evaluate CTE curriculum planning.

Second, this bill ensures that students in high school are made aware of all the skilled trade and career school opportunities available to them. There are currently 110,000 students enrolled in a CTE course in Maryland. While many will go onto a two- or four-year degree, the traditional college path may not be for everyone. This bill provides a list of all skilled trade programs and career colleges in Maryland so student can evaluate their post-secondary options with all the information available.

There is no question that a skilled workforce shortage exists in the United States and SB 478 is a small tool that can be used to help address the challenge. It is also important to note that this bill includes career colleges and skilled trade organizations. Each offers a unique path to a career recognized credential and we embrace our collective abilities to meet Maryland's workforce demands.

Sincerely,

Aaron Shenck
Executive Director

HB541

Uploaded by: Joe Horvath

Position: FAV



House Bill 541 - FAVORABLE

Maryland General Assembly
House Ways and Means Committee

February 17, 2022

Joe Horvath
Visiting Fellow
Opportunity Solutions Project

Chairman Atterbeary, Vice Chair Washington, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Joe Horvath, and I am a visiting fellow at Opportunity Solutions Project (OSP). OSP is a non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization dedicated to advancing policies that reduce barriers to work and help people into the jobs they want and need.

Thank you for hearing this legislation before your committee, and for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of House Bill 541.

The importance of House Bill 541 for Maryland can be summed up in a few numbers: 43,000, 198,000, and 4.

First, \$43,000 represents the average Marylander's student debt, the second highest in the nation, trailing only Washington, D.C.¹ Second, 198,000 represents the estimated total unfilled jobs in Maryland.² And four represents the few years each young Marylander has in high school to figure it all out.

Thankfully, House Bill 541 provides a solution: The bill makes sure that skilled trade organizations and career education organizations have a seat at the table with the Career and Technical Education Committee and are able to provide their valuable input in helping young people learn about pathways to success, work, and opportunities so they can secure well-paying jobs in the modern economy.

House Bill 541 is elegant in its simplicity, but that does not mean it is not high-impact legislation. Unfortunately, too many young people enter and then leave high school without a plan or a strong sense of direction for their future. I, myself was one of them. Anything that can be done to make those years as effective as possible is a good thing for young people.

With nearly 200,000 open jobs estimated in Maryland, who better to help direct young people to a path to filling those jobs than skilled trades and career schools themselves? These groups have a wealth of knowledge and experience to share with policymakers, parents, students, and educators. Allowing them to be involved just makes sense.

As for student debt loads, it must be said: There will always be a place for the four-year liberal arts education in America. That is not going away any time soon, nor should it. In fact, for many young Marylanders, four-year college is the right choice. However, the most common path to success in America is still found through a job, and it is crucial that resources like those created by House Bill 541 exist for young people looking to join the trades, get a job, and support themselves right away.

For all these reasons, I urge you to support House Bill 541.

¹ Melanie Hanson, "Student Loan Debt. By State," Education Data Initiative, Aug. 2021, <https://educationdata.org/student-loan-debt-by-state>.

² Samuel Stebbins, "How the Number of Job Openings in Maryland Compares to the Rest of the US," Southern Maryland Chronicle, February 14, 2022, <https://southernmarylandchronicle.com/2022/02/14/how-the-number-of-job-openings-in-maryland-compares-to-the-rest-of-the-us/>.

HB 541_MTBMA_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Michael Sakata

Position: FAV



February 17, 2022

Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
131 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 541 – FAVORABLE – Career and Technical Education Committee – Alterations

Dear Chair Atterbeary and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

The Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association (“MTBMA”) has been and continues to serve as the voice for Maryland’s construction transportation industry since 1932. Our association is comprised of 200 members. MTBMA encourages, develops, and protects the prestige of the transportation construction and materials industry in Maryland by establishing and maintaining respected relationships with federal, state, and local public officials. We proactively work with regulatory agencies and governing bodies to represent the interests of the transportation industry and advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland’s multimodal transportation system.

HB 541 adds members within skilled trade organizations and career colleges to the Career and Technical Education Committee and adds to their list of duties to develop a list of all skilled trade organization programs and career school programs in Maryland and distribute that list to public school students.

MTMBA strongly supports any legislation that seeks to advance careers in technical trades. As the legislation highlights, there is an extreme labor shortage happening in the United States right now and a very high demand for workers in skilled labor industries. These are high paying, high quality careers, not just jobs. We appreciate the changes this bill seeks to add that would include publishing a list of all available programs at public schools in Maryland. We must do everything we can to make students aware of these options and support their interests in pursuing careers in trade specialties and we thank the sponsors for their assistance in encouraging it as well.

We appreciate you taking the time to address this issue and we respectfully urge a favorable report on House Bill 541.

Thank you,

Michael Sakata
President and CEO
Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association

HB 541_MAA_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Rachel Clark

Position: FAV

CHAIRMAN:
Rob Scrivener
VICE CHAIRMAN
Brian Russell

MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



SECRETARY:
David Slaughter
TREASURER:
Jeff Graf
PRESIDENT:
G. Marshall Klinefelter

February 17, 2022

Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
131 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 541 – FAVORABLE – Career and Technical Education Committee – Alterations

Dear Chair Atterbeary and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

The Maryland Asphalt Association is comprised of 18 producer members representing more than 47 production facilities, 24 contractor members, 24 consulting engineer firms and 41 other associate members. We proactively work with regulatory agencies to represent the interests of the asphalt industry both in the writing and interpretation of state and federal regulations that may affect our members. We also advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

HB 541 adds members within skilled trade organizations and career colleges to the Career and Technical Education Committee and adds to their list of duties to develop a list of all skilled trade organization programs and career school programs in Maryland and distribute that list to public school students.

MAA strongly supports any legislation that seeks to advance careers in technical trades. As the legislation highlights, there is an extreme labor shortage happening in the United States right now and a very high demand for workers in skilled labor industries. These are high paying, high quality careers, not just jobs. We appreciate the changes this bill seeks to add that would include publishing a list of all available programs at public schools in Maryland. We must do everything we can to make students aware of these options and support their interests in pursuing careers in trade specialties and we thank the sponsors for their assistance in encouraging it as well.

We appreciate you taking the time to address this issue and we respectfully urge a favorable report on House Bill 541.

Thank you,

Marshall Klinefelter
President
Maryland Asphalt Association

HB0541 Howard Co BOE Testimony 021722 for W&M - CT

Uploaded by: Staff Howard County

Position: FAV



**Board of Education of Howard County
Testimony Submitted to the Maryland House of Delegates,
Ways and Means Committee
February 17, 2022**

**Board of Education
of Howard County**

Vicky Cutroneo, *Chair*
Antonia Watts, *Vice Chair*
Christina Delmont-Small
Yun Lu, Ph.D.
Jennifer Swickard Mallo
Jolene Mosley
Chao Wu, Ph.D.
Peter J. Banyas
Student Member
Michael J. Martirano, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Secretary/Treasurer

HB0541: FAVORABLE

Career and Technical Education Committee – Alterations

The Board of Education of Howard County (the Board) supports **HB0541 Career and Technical Education Committee – Alterations** to broaden the expertise and scope of representation on this Committee by including career college and skilled trade organizations.

The newly formed Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee under the Blueprint for Maryland's future will play a critical role in creating a world-class educational system that prepares students for a future in more than just college. The Howard County Public School System and the Board supports having relevant representation on the CTE Committee to ensure all students have access to chosen careers after high school, regardless of the type or degree provided.

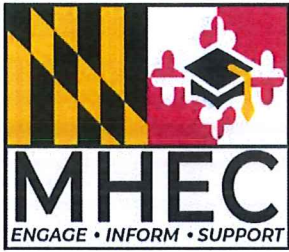
These new groups, as well as the requirement for the Committee to provide school counselors lists of career colleges and skilled trade organizations in Maryland to increase awareness of student opportunities would be extremely valuable.

For these reasons, we urge a FAVORABLE report of HB0541 from this Committee.

HB541 MHEC Letter of Information 02172022.pdf

Uploaded by: Lee Towers

Position: INFO



Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor

Mary Pat Seurkamp, Ph.D.
Chair

James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph. D.
Secretary

Bill Number: House Bill 541

Position: Letter of Information

Title: Career and Technical Education Committee – Alterations

Committee: House Ways & Means Committee

Hearing Date: February 17, 2022

Bill Summary:

House Bill 541 would add a representative of a skilled trade organization and a representative of a career college to the list of members who must be selected for the Career and Technical Education Committee. It would alter the committee's duties and authorized actions to include the perspective of career colleges and skilled trade organizations; and requiring the committee to develop and provide to guidance counselors and public schools in the State a list of all skilled trade organization programs and career programs in the State.

Information:

Currently, there is no definition for the term "career college." Alternative terms for consideration are provided below:

"Private career school" means a privately owned and privately operated institution of postsecondary education... for the purpose of training, retraining, or upgrading individuals for gainful employment as skilled or semiskilled workers or technicians in recognized occupations or in new and emerging occupations (per Education Article §10–101).

"Institution of *higher* education" means an institution of postsecondary education that generally limits enrollment to graduates of secondary schools, and awards degrees at either the associate, baccalaureate, or graduate level... and includes public, private nonprofit, and for-profit institutions of higher education (per Education Article §10–101). This term does not include non-degree granting institutions, such as our private career schools.

Last, a more inclusive term is "Institution of *postsecondary* education," which means a school or other institution that offers an educational program in the State for individuals who are at least 16 years old and who have graduated from or left elementary or secondary school (per Education Article §10–101).

It would be helpful to clarify which type of entity the proposed legislation intends to include. We welcome the opportunity to discuss the proposed legislation further and provide additional clarification.

For additional information, please contact Dr. Emily A. A. Dow, Assistant Secretary for Academic Affairs at emily.dow@maryland.gov, for more information.