

Maryland Senate - Finance Committee

Chair: Melony Griffith

Vice Chair: Katherine Klausmeier

Senate Bill 0413 - Apprenticeship 2030 Commission

Position: Informational

The Baltimore DC Metro Building Trades Council is providing information in support of SB 0413. We have always supported apprenticeships as they are a cornerstone of our success to provide a qualified and skilled labor force to our signatory contractors. The Baltimore DC Metro Building Trades Unions spend an estimated \$24 million annually on full tuition scholarships for Apprentice training. Apprenticeships if properly managed allow an individual to earn while they learn with graduated pay scales as their knowledge and skill increases. All apprenticeships should be industry funded as each business knows their labor needs of how many to train and hire. The cost of growing from 11,000 to 80,000 apprentices should not be borne by the Maryland taxpayer or create another student loan debacle. Neither should a student be pigeon holed into making a career decision for the next 50 years of their lives by arbitrary test scores or curriculum decisions. The outcome of an education should be the ability to learn how to learn. The high school diploma is the certificate that shows a graduate has a working knowledge of the three "RRR's" and has the ability to be trained in the career of their choice.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeffry Guido

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