



MARYLAND TECH COUNCIL

TO: The Honorable Pamela Beidle, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Alonzo T. Washington

FROM: Christine K. Krone
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DATE: February 22, 2024

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 511 – *Labor and Employment – Apprenticeship Standards – Ratio of Apprentices to Journeypersons*

The Maryland Tech Council (MTC) is a collaborative community, actively engaged in building stronger life science and technology companies by supporting the efforts of our individual members who are saving and improving lives through innovation. We support our member companies who are driving innovation through advocacy, education, workforce development, cost savings programs, and connecting entrepreneurial minds. The valuable resources we provide to our members help them reach their full potential, making Maryland a global leader in the life sciences and technology industries. On behalf of MTC, we submit this letter of **support** for Senate Bill 511.

MTC supports workforce development programs and policies and as such, supports Senate Bill 511, which requires the Secretary of Labor to adopt regulations establishing a ratio of three apprentices to one journeyperson for each nontraditional trade occupation and each newly registered occupation. The bill also expands the list of nontraditional trade occupations eligible for apprenticeships. MTC supports apprenticeship programs because they align training, education, and industry to address talent and skilled workforce shortages. The 3:1 ratio proposed in the bill aims to ensure that there are enough experienced workers available to train and supervise apprentices effectively and safely, while still allowing for the recruitment and development of new talent. Senate Bill 511 will help contribute to Maryland's economy by bridging the skills gap and ensuring a pipeline of skilled workers for high-growth industries critical to the State's economic growth. For these reasons, MTC supports Senate Bill 511.

For more information call:

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