

House Health and Government Operations Committee
February 27, 2024

**HB 1276 - Public Works Contracts – Apprenticeship Requirements (Maryland Workforce
Apprenticeship Utilization Act)**

Position: Favorable

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), representing Maryland’s 16 community colleges, supports **HB 1276**, which aims to change the rules for apprenticeships on public construction projects. This legislation sets up an applicable percentage of total labor hours that must be performed by an apprentice or journeyworker on certain projects and sets that percentage at 25%.

Maryland’s community colleges are top-tier at prioritizing providing pathways to employment for students, and increasing the demand for apprenticeships will mean more job placement opportunities for students enrolled in community college career and technical programs.

By ensuring that public construction projects utilize apprenticeships, Maryland is focusing on investing in local talent and building a skilled workforce to support economic development initiatives in the region. Accordingly, MACC urges the Committee to issue a **FAVORABLE** vote on **HB 1276**.

For questions, please contact Brad Phillips (bphillips@mdacc.org) or Drew Jabin (djabin@mdacc.org).