

MARYLAND WORKFORCE ASSOCIATION

Kirkland Murray, *President*
Brandon Butler, *Executive Director*
www.marylandworkforceassociation.org

MWA Members

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Anne Arundel Workforce
Development Corporation
Kirkland Murray, *Executive Director*

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MacKenzie Garvin, *Director*

Baltimore County
Baltimore County Department of
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Manager*

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Carroll County Workforce
Development
Heather Lee Powell, *Manager*

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Frederick County Workforce
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Michelle Day, *Director*

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Howard County Office of Workforce
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Montgomery, Inc. Anthony
Featherstone, *Executive Director*

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Dan Schneckenburger, *Executive
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Western Maryland Consortium
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Washington Counties)
Deborah Gilbert, *Executive Director*

February 5, 2023

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr., Chair
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401


Dear Chair Smith and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Workforce Association, an association of the thirteen Local Workforce Development Boards in Maryland, would like to express its SUPPORT of Senate Bill 470: Growing Apprenticeships and the Public Safety Workforce (GAPS) Act.

Maryland has a lofty goal to grow Registered Apprenticeship opportunities by 2030. Maryland's local workforce boards are here to assist by providing connections with Maryland's employers and jobseekers. Many of our local areas have invested funds into growing Registered Apprenticeship opportunities and look forward to working with the Maryland Department of Labor and other stakeholders in growing apprenticeship opportunities for students and individuals alike. Senate Bill 470 seeks to meet a great workforce need in creating a pipeline of individuals to enter public safety careers.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of this measure. We, again, respectfully request a favorable report of this bill. If you have any questions about the Association's support of this measure, please contact Brandon Butler, Maryland Workforce Association's Executive Director at mwaexecdirector@gmail.com.

Sincerely,


Kirkland Murray, *President*
Maryland Workforce Association