

MARYLAND WORKFORCE



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

MWA Members

Anne Arundel County
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
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Heather Lee Powell, Manager

Frederick County
Frederick County Workforce
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Michelle Day, Director

Howard County
Howard County Office of Workforce
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Francine Trout, Director

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Director*

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Montgomery, Inc. *Anthony
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Southern Maryland Job Source
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Susquehanna Workforce Network,
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Kimberly Justus, Executive Director

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Board (Caroline, Dorchester, Kent,
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*Dan Schneckenburger, Executive
Director*

Western Maryland
Western Maryland Consortium
(Allegany, Garrett &
Washington Counties)
Deborah Gilbert, Executive Director

February 28, 2024

The Honorable Luke Clippinger
House Judiciary Committee
Room 101 House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401


Dear Chair Clippinger and Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

I am writing to express the Maryland Workforce Association, an association of Maryland's 13 local workforce boards, support for **House Bill 1037: Task Force on the Creation of a Division of Returning Citizens and Expanded Reentry Services - Establishment**. The measure will create a task force focused on the expansion of services for returning citizens.

The Association would also like to express its appreciation to the sponsor of this measure for including three representatives of "county workforce development programs" on the task force. The Local Workforce Development Boards in Maryland provide services focused on individuals with barriers to employment. Some of those individuals are those who are returning citizens. In fact, the Mayor's Office of Employment Development in Baltimore City has a job center at Mondawmin Mall focused on providing services to returning citizens. This is just one example of an innovative program that the Local Workforce Development Boards provide in Maryland.

In short, we look forward to lending our expertise to this task force and respectfully request the Committee's favorable consideration of this bill. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Brandon Butler, MWA's Executive Director for any questions or comments about our position. He can be reached at 240.434.5524, or mwaexecdirector@gmail.com.

Sincerely,


Kirkland Murray, President
Maryland Workforce Association