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## Finance Committee

**To:** Senator Pam Beidle, Char; Senator Antonio Hayes, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee  
**From:** Jason Ascher, Political Director – Mid-Atlantic Pipe Trades Association

### **SUPPORT SB 688 - Public Works Contracts - Apprenticeship Requirements (Maryland Workforce Apprenticeship Utilization Act)**

On behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Pipe Trades Association and our five United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters Locals, which represent over 10,000 Plumbers, Steamfitters, Welders, HVAC Techs, and Sprinkler Fitters across Maryland, I ask you to **SUPPORT SB 688**.

In the construction industry, apprenticeship is the best way to train a new worker. Apprentices are required to work 1-on-1 with a journeyperson in their craft each workday, in addition to classroom training, much of which is hands-on. The best way to grow the number of registered apprentices in Maryland is by increasing their use. Requiring registered apprentices to be on every public works job ensures that, along with knowing you are getting a well-trained worker, you know the worker is local because a Maryland registered apprenticeship program will have Maryland residents in the program.

SB 688 requires that a certain percentage of the workforce on a public works job be from an apprenticeship program registered with the Maryland Department of Labor. It also sets thresholds, so it does not overburden a small contractor.

For the above reasons, we ask that you give **SB 688**.

Sincerely

Jason Ascher  
Political Director  
Mid-Atlantic Pipe Trades Association

MID-ATLANTIC PIPE TRADES ASSOCIATION



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**Plumbers and Gasfitter Local 5** – Camp Springs, MD  
**Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 10** – Richmond, VA/Roanoke, VA  
**Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 110** – Norfolk, VA  
**Road Sprinkler Fitters Local 669** – Columbia, MD

**Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 486** – Baltimore, MD  
**Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 489** – Cumberland, MD  
**Steamfitters Local 602** – Capitol Heights, MD