



**Maryland Joint
Legislative Committee**

The Voice of Merit Construction

March 4, 2025

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TO: ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
FROM: ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS
RE: H.B. 850 – PROCUREMENT – PUBLIC WORK CONTRACTS –
DATA DASHBOARD (MARYLAND PUBLIC WORKS AND
APPRENTICESHIP TRANSPARENCY ACT)
POSITION: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENT

The Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) supports H.B. 850 which is before you today for consideration. We believe that increased transparency in public works projects is important, and we appreciate the bill's intent to provide public access to key information regarding contractors, subcontractors, employees, and apprentices.

We agree that a data dashboard can be a valuable tool for oversight and accountability. The information outlined in Section 17-206 (A), regarding contractors, subcontractors, employees, and apprentices, is relevant and should be publicly available. We particularly support the inclusion of prevailing wage rates, apprenticeship data, and contractor/subcontractor identification.

However, we have serious concerns about the reporting frequency mandated in Section 17-206 (B). Requiring contractors to submit the listed information weekly creates an unnecessary and duplicative reporting burden. This information, including detailed wage and benefit data, is already provided to the state through certified payroll reports. Mandating a separate, weekly report for the same data is inefficient, costly, and will place an undue burden on contractors, especially small businesses.

Therefore, we recommend the following:

On page 3, strike lines 1-3 of Section 17-206 (B).

This approach will achieve the bill's transparency goals without creating duplicative reporting requirements.

With this amendment, we believe the Maryland Public Works and Apprenticeship Transparency Act can be a valuable tool for promoting transparency and accountability in public works contracting without creating unnecessary burdens on contractors.

On behalf of the over 1,500 ABC members in Maryland, we respectfully request a favorable with amendment report on H.B. 850.

Marcus Jackson, Director of
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