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MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1165

TO: Budget & Taxation Committee Members
FROM: Maryland Department of Labor (MD Labor)
DATE: April 1, 2026
BILL: State Procurement - Apprenticeship Program Accountability and Completion

MD LABOR POSITION: FAVORABLE

HB1165 would amend the definition of “Registered Apprenticeship program” to stipulate that programs must have a completion rate of 25%, as verified by the Maryland Department of Labor (MD Labor), to access certain State procurement contracts.

The Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning (DWDAL) within MD Labor operates as Maryland’s State Apprenticeship Agency. Registered Apprenticeship offers job seekers immediate employment opportunities that provide sustainable wages and advancement along a career pathway. Graduates of Registered Apprenticeship programs receive nationally recognized, portable credentials, and their training may be applied towards further post-secondary education.

The Department is in support of HB1165 as amended by the House.

MD Labor has worked diligently with the bill sponsors and appreciates their collaboration on this legislation to strengthen Registered Apprenticeship programs in our State.

MD Labor respectfully requests that the Committee issue a favorable report on HB1165.

For questions, please contact Andrew Fulginiti at Andrew.Fulginiti@maryland.gov.