



PLUMBERS LOCAL UNION NO. 5

UNITED ASSOCIATION OF JOURNEYMEN AND APPRENTICES OF THE PLUMBING AND PIPE FITTING INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA, AFL-CIO

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TESTIMONY OF TERRIEA “T” SMALLS, BUSINESS MANAGER
PLUMBERS LOCAL 5
IN SUPPORT

SENATE BILL 673 / HOUSE BILL 1165 –
STATE PROCUREMENT – APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLETION

BEFORE THE SENATE BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE
AND THE HOUSE GOVERNMENT, LABOR, AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

Dear Chair Guzzone, Chair Wells, and Honorable Members of the Committees:

On behalf of Plumbers Local 5, I respectfully submit this testimony in support of Senate Bill 673 / House Bill 1165.

Plumbers Local 5 represents union plumbers who perform essential work on public construction projects across Maryland. Our members are trained through registered apprenticeship programs that emphasize safety, technical proficiency, and long-term career development.

This legislation strengthens the State’s procurement process by ensuring that apprenticeship programs utilized on State projects are not only registered, but effective. A minimum completion rate is a reasonable measure of whether a program is fulfilling its intended purpose.

Programs that consistently graduate apprentices contribute to workforce readiness and jobsite safety. Programs that do not undermine both workers and the public interest. Senate Bill 673 / House Bill 1165 addresses this concern directly and responsibly.

By maintaining existing compliance options while adding accountability, this bill promotes fairness and workforce quality without imposing unnecessary burdens.

For these reasons, Plumbers Local 5 respectfully urges a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Terriea “T” Smalls
Business Manager / FST
Plumbers Local 5

Terriea “T” L. Smalls
Business Mgr. / Financial Sec-Treas.

Michael S. Canales, Jr.
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