



**PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS**

**UA LOCAL UNION 486**

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Founded 1889

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TESTIMONY OF PASQUALE PETROVIA, BUSINESS MANAGER  
PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS LOCAL 486  
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 and Steamfitters Local 486, I respectfully submit this testimony in support of Senate Bill 673 / House Bill 1165.

Local 486 represents highly trained plumbers and steamfitters who perform critical mechanical and piping work on public construction projects across Maryland. Our members are trained through registered apprenticeship programs that combine classroom instruction with extensive on-the-job training.

We support this legislation because it strengthens accountability within the State's procurement framework while preserving flexibility for contractors. Senate Bill 673 / House Bill 1165 does not eliminate existing compliance options. Instead, it ensures that registered apprenticeship programs relied upon for State work are producing measurable outcomes.

A minimum apprenticeship completion rate is a reasonable standard. Programs that do not graduate apprentices fail both workers and employers, while successful programs help maintain a stable, skilled workforce capable of meeting the State's long-term infrastructure needs.

Local 486 believes public dollars should support contractors that are genuinely investing in workforce development. This bill advances that goal while maintaining fairness across the procurement system.

For these reasons, Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 486 respectfully urges a favorable report on Senate Bill 673 / House Bill 1165.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Pasquale Petrovia".

Pasquale Petrovia  
Business Manager  
Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 486