Written Testimony in Support of HB1338
Before the House Environment & Transportation Committee
March 5, 2026

Submitted by:
Ian Jackson
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Age 18 | Provisional License Holder

Chair Marc A. Korman, Vice Chair Michele J. Guyton, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ian Jackson, and I am an HVAC graduate of the NCIA Vocational Training Center. I am 18 years old, live in Baltimore City, and completed the HVAC program on November 20, 2025. I submit this testimony in support of SB0856 / HB1338.

I learned about the Vocational Training Center through my brother, who completed the same HVAC program. Unlike me, he entered the program with a full driver's license. By the time he graduated, he was fully employed in the HVAC field and earning $31 per hour.

I completed the same training and met the same program expectations. I passed my road test and now hold a provisional driver's license. However, despite being legally allowed to drive, I continue to be denied employment because employers' insurance policies require a full driver's license.

I completed the HVAC program without a license and worked hard to obtain my provisional license afterward, believing that would allow me to move forward. Unfortunately, even with a provisional license, I have continued to receive no job offers solely due to this restriction.

This experience shows how the 18-month provisional requirement affects adults entering the workforce. Two people completed the same program with the same skills, but only one was able to work immediately — not because of safety, but because of licensing status.

HB1338 maintains safety standards while removing this unnecessary employment barrier for adults.

I respectfully urge the Committee to issue a favorable report on HB1338.

Sincerely,

Ian Jackson