

PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 60 / HOUSE BILL 299
FRAUD PREVENTION, PREVAILING WAGE, AND LIVING WAGE – PROHIBITIONS,
PENALTIES, AND ENFORCEMENT

SUBMITTED BY: CHRIS ANDERSON
BUSINESS AGENT, PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS LOCAL 486

BEFORE THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND HOUSE GOVERNMENT, LABOR,
AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

Dear Chairs Beidle and Wells, and members of the Senate Finance Committee and House Government, Labor and Elections Committee:

My name is Christopher Anderson, Business Agent of Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 486. Our members perform critical plumbing and steamfitting work on Maryland's public and private projects—work that directly affects public health, safety, and the long-term reliability of major facilities and infrastructure. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 60.

Senate Bill 60 / House Bill 299 is a needed enforcement and accountability bill. It strengthens Maryland's ability to prevent and remedy workplace fraud, including misconduct that results in unlawful underpayments and unfair cost-shifting. It also reinforces the integrity of prevailing wage and living wage laws, which exist to ensure that public dollars support fair pay, responsible contractors, and stable careers—not a low-road race to the bottom.

For skilled trades like ours, the problem is straightforward: when bad actors falsify records, misclassify workers, or evade wage requirements, they can underbid responsible contractors who follow the rules. That harms workers, honest employers, and taxpayers all at once. Senate Bill 60 / House Bill 299 improves enforcement by strengthening coordination and providing additional tools to pursue violations—especially in matters that are complex, multi-layered, or involve repeat offenders.

Local 486 supports Senate Bill 60 / House Bill 299 because it helps restore fairness in bidding and accountability in public contracting. When labor standards are enforced consistently, contractors compete on skill, safety, productivity, and performance—not on who can cheat workers the most effectively.

For these reasons, Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 486 respectfully urges a FAVORABLE report on Senate Bill 60 / House Bill 299.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Anderson

Christopher Anderson
Business Agent
Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 486