



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 60 / HOUSE BILL 299

FRAUD PREVENTION, PREVAILING WAGE, AND LIVING WAGE –  
PROHIBITIONS, PENALTIES, AND ENFORCEMENT

SUBMITTED BY: GARY ARMSTRONG  
BUSINESS MANAGER, IRONWORKERS LOCAL 5

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 Gary Armstrong, and I am the Business Manager of Ironworkers Local 5. Ironworkers Local 5 represents more than 1,000 union ironworkers across the region, including Maryland. I am writing in support of Senate Bill 60 / House Bill 299.

Ironworkers perform the work that makes large-scale construction possible—structural steel erection, reinforcing steel installation, welding, rigging, and related safety-critical tasks on bridges, schools, hospitals, public buildings, and major economic development projects. Our craft requires skill, discipline, and training, and our members depend on strong labor standards to ensure fair competition and safe worksites.

Senate Bill 60 / House Bill 299 strengthens Maryland's ability to address workplace fraud and related violations that distort the bidding process and undermine worker protections. Contractors who cheat by misclassifying workers or falsifying records can illegally reduce labor costs and outbid responsible contractors. That harms workers directly and weakens the integrity of public contracting.

This bill reinforces prevailing wage and living wage enforcement and strengthens accountability for repeat violators. It also supports a procurement environment where public projects are built by qualified workers earning lawful wages and benefits—exactly what Maryland taxpayers expect when public dollars are spent.



Ironworkers Local 5 supports Senate Bill 60 / House Bill 299 because it promotes fairness, safety, and responsible contracting. For these reasons, Ironworkers Local 5 respectfully urges a FAVORABLE report on Senate Bill 60 / House Bill 299.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Armstrong  
Business Manager  
Ironworkers Local 5