

HB 1352 - State Procurement - Worker Residency Requirements
House Government, Labor, and Elections Committee
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SUPPORT

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Madame Chair and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 1352. On behalf of 700 affiliated unions, I offer the following comments.

HB 1352 establishes worker residency requirements for state public works contracts. This legislation ensures that our state continues its investment in the growth of our workforce.

A number of states have implemented similar measures such as Delaware, Illinois, California, New York, West Virginia, Colorado, Massachusetts, along with the District of Columbia. By requiring that a certain amount of hours be completed by a Maryland resident on a public works project, this bill strengthens our apprenticeship programs while increasing opportunities for individuals to enter into the skilled trades.

As our state continues to find workable solutions to address our severe workforce shortage and growing fiscal challenges, HB 1352 takes a necessary step in supporting and prioritizing our state's workforce by creating and sustaining quality union jobs for state residents.

For these reasons, we urge a favorable vote on HB 1352.