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BILL NO.: HB 388

TITLE: Prevailing Wage – University System of Maryland, Morgan State University, and St. Mary’s College of Maryland – Applicability

SPONSOR: Delegate Luedtke

COMMITTEE: Economic Matters

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 1, 2022

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 388, Prevailing Wage – University System of Maryland, Morgan State University, and St. Mary’s College of Maryland – Applicability. This legislation would ensure that all public work contracts by the University System of Maryland adhere to Maryland’s prevailing wage laws.

Covid-19 has had a devastating economic impact on residents throughout the State of Maryland. Inadequate pay can result in residents falling below the poverty line, facing food insecurity, and facing an uphill battle to support themselves and their loved ones. County Executive Olszewski has championed the use of prevailing wage across industry sectors because he understands that a standardized, livable wage is essential to revitalize Maryland’s economy and raise the standard of living for workers.

Creating a standard in which public work contracts adhere to the prevailing wage laws of the State increases the likelihood that those contributing to the higher education system in Maryland earn a livable wage. These provisions would increase spending power, lower the rate of food insecurity, and expedite economic recovery throughout the state of Maryland.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on House Bill 388. For more information, please contact Joel Beller, Acting Director of Government Affairs at jbeller@baltimorecountymd.gov.