

JACK BAILEY  
*Legislative District 29*  
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties

Judicial Proceedings Committee



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
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February 8, 2022

**Senate Bill 454 - Marine Contractor License - Performance of Services - Licensing Requirements and Fees**

Dear Chairman Pinsky and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to introduce Senate Bill 454 - Marine Contractor License - Performance of Services - Licensing Requirements and Fees. This bill authorizes an individual who is employed by a county or municipality in the State to perform specified marine contractor services within the scope of their employment without having to obtain a license. The bill also exempts a local government employee who performs marine contractor services within the scope of their employment who must be licensed from paying license or testing fees.

State and Federal employees are already exempted from the requirement to be licensed to perform these services. However, counties and municipalities do not currently have this same exemption, and so they are required to hire licensed marine contractors for relatively minor maintenance and repair projects that could otherwise be handled by individuals who are already employed by the county or municipality. This leads to increased costs and requires more taxpayer money to be spent on these projects.

I am also submitting an amendment to this bill that is the result of discussions between the House sponsor and those who had concerns about the bill following the House hearing. With this amendment, the exemption from licensure in this bill only applies if the project presents a de minimis risk to human health or the environment, does not require a federal or State permit, and if the marine contractor services do not increase the footprint of an existing structure if the project involves an existing structure. For other services that would still require a county or municipal employee to be licensed, the bill exempts them from having to pay licensing or testing fees to receive their license.

I respectfully request a favorable report with amendments on Senate Bill 454. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Bailey".

Senator Jack Bailey  
District 29  
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties