



Maryland Senate Finance Committee

Chair: Delores G. Kelley

Vice Chair: Brian J. Feldman

Senate Bill 259 Procurement – Prevailing Wage – Applicability

Position: **SUPPORT**

The Baltimore DC Metro Building Trades Council supports Senate Bill 259. Service maintenance work requires the same skilled craft professionalism equal to that used for new construction. These highly skilled crafts men and women are vital to the maintenance and preservation of our buildings and building systems for decades of purposeful use.

Equally important is prevailing wages support apprenticeship. Building Trades Unions in partnership with our signatory contractors with Joint Apprenticeship Training Councils manage \$26,000,000.00 annually in providing scholarships for apprentices. The largest post high school scholarship program in Maryland. Earn while you learn with no student debt. Senate Bill 259 will ensure qualified, safe, highly skilled craft professionals on public projects and protect local communities from the deterioration of local labor standards. Our members represent the safest, most highly skilled and productive construction and maintenance workforce in Maryland. Without prevailing wage laws contractors will be further hard-pressed to find qualified, skilled workers to accept jobs with unfair wages and little to no benefits. Prevailing wage laws are vital in the construction and service maintenance industry – and, more importantly, when these laws are protected, America's middle class is empowered.

We ask the committee for a favorable vote. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Jeffrey Guido - Baltimore-DC Metro Building Trades Council

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United Association
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Sprinkler Fitters
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