

**ADRIAN BOAFO**  
*Legislative District 23*  
Prince George's County

Economic Matters Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates  
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**THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES**  
**ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401**

Chairman C.T. Wilson  
Economic Matters Committee  
Room 231  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Chairman Wilson, Vice-Chair Crosby and Members of the House Economic Matters Committee,

HB650 requires the Secretary of Labor to update the apprenticeship ratio from 1:1 to 3:1 for all newly registered non-traditional (non-construction trades) apprenticeships in Maryland.

There are 11,000 apprentices in Maryland - Governor Moore aims for 60,000 apprentices by 2030 and 45% of high school graduates enrolled in apprenticeships by 2031. Currently, this goal is not feasible with the majority of businesses in Maryland (84%) and specifically Prince George's County (89%) maintaining fewer than 20 employees.

With the current 1:1 ratio, these businesses would need to hire a full-time journeyworker for every apprentice they bring on. HB650 retroactively increases the ratio to 3:1 for about 30 currently registered apprenticeships. Crucially, this bill exempts newly registered apprenticeship occupations that the Department of Labor deems a safety risk. Employers are not mandated to use the 3:1 ratio and can use a lower ratio if they choose.

Unlike other work-based learning opportunities, apprenticeships offer structured job training, supplemental education, and mentorship, all while advancing students toward earning a competitive income. That is why I strongly urge a favorable report on HB650.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adrian Boafo".

Delegate Adrian Boafo