

HOUSE BILL 290

K3

6lr0765
CF 6lr2449

By: **Delegates McCray, Barve, Brooks, Carter, Chang, Clippinger, Conaway, Frick, Glenn, Hayes, Haynes, Hill, Jalisi, Lierman, Lisanti, Luedtke, McIntosh, Moon, Morales, Oaks, Patterson, Platt, B. Robinson, Rosenberg, Sample-Hughes, Sydnor, Tarlau, Valderrama, Waldstreicher, M. Washington, West, and K. Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2016

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Labor and Employment – Apprenticeship Career Training in Our**
3 **Neighborhoods (ACTION) Program – Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of altering and renaming the Construction Apprenticeship Assistance
5 Program to establish the Apprenticeship Career Training in Our Neighborhoods
6 (ACTION) Program; altering the purpose and method for administering the
7 Program; requiring the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to
8 administer the Program; establishing certain standards under which certain
9 employers may be eligible to receive certain grants; requiring the Department,
10 rather than the Secretary, to adopt certain regulations; altering a specification
11 regarding the method for awarding certain grants to certain eligible employers and
12 determining the amount of the grant for each eligible employer; repealing
13 specifications regarding a certain maximum grant amount and the process for
14 distributing certain grants; declaring the intent of the General Assembly that the
15 Program receive certain funding on an annual basis; defining a certain term; and
16 generally relating to the Apprenticeship Career Training in Our Neighborhoods
17 (ACTION) Program.

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
19 Article – Labor and Employment
20 Section 11–601
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

23 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
24 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



Article – Labor and Employment

11-601.

(a) In this section, [“private sector entity” means a person that the Maryland Apprenticeship and Training Council approves under § 11-405(b) of this title] **“ACTION PROGRAM” MEANS THE APPRENTICESHIP CAREER TRAINING IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION.**

(b) There is [a Construction Apprenticeship Assistance] **AN APPRENTICESHIP CAREER TRAINING IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS** Program in the Department.

(c) The [purpose] **PURPOSES** of the [Construction Apprenticeship Assistance] **ACTION** Program [is] **ARE:**

(1) to develop a well-trained, productive construction workforce which meets the needs of the State’s economy;

(2) **TO ENCOURAGE EMPLOYERS TO HIRE APPRENTICES IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY; AND**

(3) **TO HELP EMPLOYERS OFFSET ADDITIONAL COSTS, IF ANY, ASSOCIATED WITH HIRING APPRENTICES.**

(d) (1) The [Division] **DEPARTMENT** shall administer the [Construction Apprenticeship Assistance] **ACTION** Program and **PROVIDE GRANTS ON A COMPETITIVE BASIS TO EMPLOYERS THAT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

(2) **AN EMPLOYER IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A GRANT IF THE EMPLOYER EMPLOYS ONE OR MORE APPRENTICES WHO:**

(i) **HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED BY THE EMPLOYER FOR AT LEAST 7 MONTHS;**

(ii) **ARE ENGAGED IN A BUILDING OR CONSTRUCTION TRADE;**

(iii) **ARE ENROLLED IN THE FIRST YEAR OF AN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM REGISTERED WITH THE MARYLAND APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING COUNCIL UNDER § 11-405(B) OF THIS TITLE; AND**

(iv) **LIVE IN A ZIP CODE IN WHICH THE PERCENTAGE OF POVERTY IS AT LEAST 20% AS ESTABLISHED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, IN THE MOST RECENTLY RELEASED DATA.**

1 (e) (1) As provided in the State budget, the [Construction Apprenticeship
2 Assistance] **ACTION** Program shall award grants to eligible [private sector entities that
3 operate apprenticeship programs in the State] **EMPLOYERS**.

4 (2) **IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT, FOR FISCAL**
5 **YEAR 2017 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE STATE BUDGET INCLUDE AN**
6 **APPROPRIATION OF AT LEAST \$100,000 FOR THE ACTION PROGRAM TO:**

7 (I) **PROVIDE GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE EMPLOYERS; AND**

8 (II) **COVER ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.**

9 (f) [The Secretary may] **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL** adopt regulations necessary
10 to carry out this section, **INCLUDING REGULATIONS TO:**

11 (1) **DEVELOP REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS;**

12 (2) **DEVELOP A PROCESS FOR REVIEWING GRANT APPLICATIONS AND**
13 **AWARDING GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE EMPLOYERS; AND**

14 (3) **DETERMINE A CAP FOR THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF A GRANT THAT**
15 **AN ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER MAY RECEIVE EACH YEAR.**

16 (g) [By regulation, the Secretary shall establish:

17 (1) criteria to determine the eligibility of private sector entities; and

18 (2) an application process for determining eligibility.

19 (h) **A] THE AMOUNT OF A** grant awarded by the [Construction Apprenticeship
20 Assistance] **ACTION** Program under subsection (e) of this section shall be based on the
21 number of [participants in a program operated by an eligible private sector entity]
22 **APPRENTICES WHO SATISFY THE CRITERIA IN SUBSECTION (D)(2) OF THIS SECTION**
23 **THAT THE ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER EMPLOYS.**

24 [(i) A grant shall consist of a maximum of \$1,000 for each apprentice in an eligible
25 private sector entity.

26 (j) The Construction Apprenticeship Assistance Program shall distribute a grant
27 awarded to a private sector entity:

28 (1) at the end of a Program year; and

1 (2) only to the extent that each apprentice has completed the Program
2 year.]

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
4 1, 2016.