

February 22, 2023

The Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary
Ways & Means Committee
House Office Building, Room 131,
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD, 21401

RE: MBIA Letter of Support HB 689 Pathways in Technology Early College High (P-TECH) School Program – High School Diplomas

Dear Chair Atterbeary:

The Maryland Building Industry Association, representing 100,000 employees statewide, appreciates the opportunity to participate in the discussion surrounding **HB 689 Pathways in Technology Early College High (P-TECH) School Program – High School Diplomas**. MBIA Supports the Act in its current version.

This bill would require that each memorandum of understanding establishing a P-TECH school ensures that each student will receive a high school Diploma. Education is becoming more and more central to our society. It is imperative that people be able to show the educational attainment level that they have achieved. Because P-TECH schools have a unique pathway to educational attainment taking them all the way to an associates degree it is possible that some students will not achieve that full status during their time there but have achieved the equivalent of a high school education. This bill would mandate that those students that have achieved that level of mastery be recognized for it and able to enter the job market with the educational qualifications that they have earned.

For these reasons, MBIA respectfully requests the Committee give this measure a favorable report. Thank you for your consideration.

For more information about this position, please contact Lori Graf at 410-800-7327 or lgraf@marylandbuilders.org.

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