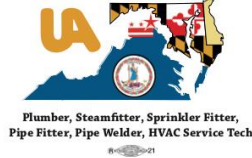


Mid Atlantic Pipe Trades Association



Maryland Senate – Finance Committee

TO: Senator Delores Kelly, Chair; Senator Brian Feldman, Vice Chair; and Member of the Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Jason Ascher, Political Director – Mid-Atlantic Pipe Trades Association

Support SB 549 – Income Tax Credit – Agency Shop Fees and Union Dues

On behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Pipe Trades Association and its over seven thousand members from the United Association Locals across the state, I ask that you SUPPORT SB 549.

The 2017 federal tax reform has put a significant burden on working Americans. Contrary to the administrations' statements most people did not see a substantial reduction in their taxes. The lack of a tax decrease was caused in many cases by the loss of deductions for things such as state and local taxes, business expenses, and union dues. While they may see a small increase in their paychecks, it is offset by a decrease in the size of their expected tax refund, in fact most will end up owing money instead.

While the state cannot fix all the problems at the federal level, they can provide some minor tax relief by giving this tax deduction. This deduction would give our member as well as the working men and women in other labor unions a little relief on their state taxes to try to help make up for the increase they may be seeing in federal taxes.

For all of the reasons discussed, I ask that you SUPPORT SB 549.

Sincerely,

Jason Ascher
Political Director
Mid-Atlantic Pipe Trades Association
7050 Oakland Mills Road, Suite 180
Columbia, MD 21046