

HOUSE BILL 61

K3

3lr0557

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate Charkoudian**

Requested: October 17, 2022

Introduced and read first time: January 11, 2023

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Utility Contractors – Employment and Licensure – Requirements and**
3 **Application**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the application of a provision of law that requires
5 investor-owned electric companies and gas and electric companies to require
6 contractors and subcontractors on certain projects to take certain actions related to
7 employment and licensure; altering the requirements that the contractors and
8 subcontractors must meet with respect to apprenticeship programs and wages; and
9 generally relating to employment and licensure requirements for utility contractors.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – Labor and Employment
12 Section 3–416
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Labor and Employment**

18 3–416.

19 (a) This section applies[:

20 (1)] to a project undertaken by an investor-owned electric company or gas
21 and electric company that[:

22 (i)] involves the construction, reconstruction, installation,

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 demolition, restoration, or alteration of any electric infrastructure of the company, and any
2 related traffic control activities[]; and

3 (ii) is funded by federal funds to meet the State's policy goals for the
4 electric distribution system under Title 7, Subtitle 8 of the Public Utilities Article, including
5 funds made available under § 40101, § 40103, or § 40107 of the federal Infrastructure
6 Investment and Jobs Act; and

7 (2) only to the portion of the project supported by the federal funds].

8 (b) An investor-owned electric company or gas and electric company shall require
9 a contractor or subcontractor on a project described in subsection (a) of this section to:

10 (1) pay the area prevailing wage [for each trade employed], including
11 wages and fringe benefits;

12 (2) offer health care and retirement benefits to the employees working on
13 the project;

14 (3) participate in an apprenticeship program registered with the State [for
15 each trade employed on the project] **OR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR;**

16 (4) establish and execute a plan for outreach, recruitment, and retention of
17 State residents to perform work on the project, with an aspirational goal of 25% of total
18 work hours performed by Maryland residents, including residents who are:

19 (i) returning citizens;

20 (ii) women;

21 (iii) minority individuals; or

22 (iv) veterans;

23 (5) have been in compliance with federal [and], State, **AND LOCAL** wage
24 and hour laws for the previous 3 years;

25 (6) be subject to all State reporting and compliance requirements; and

26 (7) maintain all appropriate licenses in good standing.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 October 1, 2023.