

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS - LOCAL UNION No. 24

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Baltimore Port Council
Baltimore Metro Council — AFL-CIO
Central MD Labor Council — AFL-CIO
Del-Mar-Va Labor Council — AFL-CIO
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Written Testimony of
Peter Demchuk, Business Manager, IBEW LOCAL 24
Before the
House Economic Matters Committee On
HB 163 Labor and Employment - Labor Organizations – Right to Work

STRONGLY OPPOSE

February 4, 2020

Chairman Davis and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony in opposition to House Bill 163.

For the record, my name is Peter Demchuk. I am a 40 year member, and the Business Manager, of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 24 located in Baltimore. In addition, I am a lifelong resident of Maryland, residing in District 7 of Baltimore County. I represent approximately 2000 hardworking, Maryland tax paying electricians.

The work we do is not easy; it requires high skills and has a fair amount of risk. We understand this, which is why we provide extensive training and fight for quality wages, pensions, and health care.

We are opposed to HB 163 because states with Right to Work Laws have:

- 12.7% Lower Wages and Incomes
- Lower Rates of Health Insurance Coverage
- Higher Poverty and Infant Mortality Rates
- Less Investment in Education, 32.5% less per pupil in right to work states
- 49% Higher rate of Workplace Deaths

Please Stop the “Race to the Bottom” and give an “Unfavorable” recommendation to HB-163.

Sincerely,



Peter P. Demchuk

Business Manager

PPD:mgs

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