



*The Voice of Merit Construction*

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TO: ECONOMIC MATTERS COMMITTEE  
FROM: ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTOR  
RE: H.B. 1285 – MARYLAND ELECTRICIANS ACT - REVISIONS  
POSITION: SUPPORT

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) would like to address H.B. 1285 which is before you today for consideration.

The bill will allow journeypersons to be “grandfathered” in, without examination, provided the individual can show a certain amount of experience in the trade and verified by a Master Electrician. It is estimated that over 200,000 journeypersons are currently working in the State of Maryland, many of whom have decades of experience.

The revision allows for a person to qualify to be “grandfathered” in if they provide proof of a minimum of 4 years’ experience in the trade under a Master Electrician. It is our belief that this is most appropriate for the following reasons:

- a) The typical apprenticeship time period is 4 years. We believe that an individual should have the minimum of 4 years’ experience that is required of an apprentice to become a journeyperson.
- b) If the amendment allows for only 3 years of documented experience, many current 3rd year apprentices could potentially opt out of their final year of school. This is a loophole that is best closed to avoid this situation.

On behalf of the over 1,500 ABC members in Maryland, we respectfully request a favorable report on H.B. 1285.

Marcus Jackson, Director  
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