

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS - LOCAL UNION No. 24

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Baltimore Port Council
Baltimore Metro Council — AFL-CIO
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BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21230

C. SAMUEL CURRERI, President
DAVID W. SPRINGHAM, JR., Recording Secretary
JEROME T. MILLER, Financial Secretary
MICHAEL J. McHALE, Business Manager

OFFICE:

2701 W. PATAPSCO AVE
SUITE 200

Phone: 410-247-5511

FAX: 410-536-4338

Written Testimony of

Rico Albacarys, Assistant Business Agent, IBEW LOCAL 24

Before the House Appropriations Committee On

SB 922 Maryland Construction Education and Innovation Fund - Funding - Alteration

Support

March 14, 2023

Chairman Guzzone and Committee Members,

My name is Rico Albacarys and I am writing in **support** of **SB 922**. The Maryland Center for Construction Education (MCCEI) and Innovation plays a vital role in educating individuals about the numerous career paths available in the construction industry, as well as providing support to help individuals achieve success in these careers.

In recent years, the construction industry in Maryland has grown significantly, creating numerous job opportunities for individuals looking to build careers in this field. However, there is still a significant skills gap in the industry, and the Maryland Center for Construction Education and Innovation is working hard to address this gap by connecting individuals with the education and training they need to succeed.

By increasing funding for MCCEI, we can help ensure it has the resources it needs to continue and enhance their efforts. This will help to strengthen Maryland's construction industry and ultimately drive economic growth in the state.

I urge you to vote **favorably** on **SB 922**.

Sincerely,

Rico Albacarys

Assistant Business Agent IBEW Local 24