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February 7, 2023

To: Members of the House Economic Matters Committee  
From: Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake  
Re: Support House Bill 149 – Maryland Electricians Act - Revisions

Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake supports House Bill (HB) 149 and requests a favorable report. HB149 is follow-up legislation to the 2021 legislation, which became law, and which created a statewide journeyman electrician license.

HB149 places the approval for apprenticeship programs with Maryland's Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning.

The second and most significant part of HB149 is the creation of an uninsured status certification for master electricians who are providing journeyman electrical services in Maryland. The person who is working under the uninsured status does not need to secure his/her own insurance coverage. In addition, a person working under an uninsured status is unable to pull permits in a local jurisdiction. HB 149 also requires electrical workers with the uninsured status to meet continuing education requirements. HB149 is common sense legislation which allows companies to utilize the services of experienced electricians who would be reluctant to work if required to carry their own insurance coverage.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact Grant Shmelzer, Executive Director of IEC Chesapeake, at 1-301-621-9545, extension 114 or at [gshmelzer@iec-chesapeake.com](mailto:gshmelzer@iec-chesapeake.com) or Kevin O'Keeffe at 410-382-7844 or at [kevin@kokeeffelaw.com](mailto:kevin@kokeeffelaw.com).

### **About Us**

Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake represents members throughout Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, D.C. Our headquarters are located in Laurel, Maryland. IEC Chesapeake has an extensive apprenticeship program for training electricians. In addition, IEC Chesapeake promotes green economic growth by providing education and working with contractor members, industry partners, government policy makers and inspectors to increase the use of renewable energy.

