



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 0149 MARYLAND ELECTRICIANS ACT-REVISIONS FEBRUARY 7, 2023

TO: Hon. C.T. Wilson, Chair, and members of the Economic Matters Committee
From: Tom Clark, Political Director, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 26

Mr. Chair and members of the Committee, I ask you to look favorable upon HB 0149. The revisions of the Maryland Electricians Act, ties up the loose ends from the legislation passed in 2021. The sponsors of this bill did their due diligence and are now tweaking to produce an even more perfect Maryland Electricians Act.

These revisions address the “uninsured” master electrician, this is very common in the trade. Let me explain: To pull permits to do electric work in Maryland, a person needs a Masters License, which is given to those who study, take, and pass a very stringent test on electrical theory, code and electrical safety. You then need to insure your Masters License, like any business in the state. However, some men and women in the electrical trade, study, take and pass the Masters test, just to make them better electricians. A “feather in their cap” if you will. These well-informed overachievers want to be “masters” of their trade, not necessarily business owners. Therefore, no insurance is needed to do electric work for some other persons Business license. This revision will encourage people to study and test themselves, and more than likely become a better electrician.

I would encourage you to **support HB 0149** in order to make the Maryland Electricians Act an even better law.

Thank you

