



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT/WITH AMMENDMENTS HB 908 ELECTRICITY-COMMUNITY SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEMS PROGRAM February 23, 2023

TO: Del. CT Wilson, Chair, and members of the House Economic Matters Committee
FROM: Tom Clark, Political Director, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 26

Mr. Chair, Mr. Vice Chair and members of the Committee, I am encouraged by the good will of this bill. I hope you can join me in **support of HB 908 with amendments**. The idea of including underserved communities and those of Low to Moderate Income (**LMI**) in the benefits of solar energy, is terrific. I would like to go a couple steps further and add some labor conditions as well as including those of LMI in the workforce.

As for the amendments, I would like the bill to include the following:

On page 10, I would like to add roman numeral #'s (V) and (VI)

(V) All community solar energy generating systems, while in construction or while maintaining, will be subject to Prevailing wages, using State registered apprenticeships, women, veteran and local hiring.

(VI) All community solar energy generating systems, while in construction or while maintaining, shall make every effort to hire (LMI) Low to Moderate Income individual's as well as Low Income individuals

As Maryland moves forward as a leader in solar energy, let us also move forward in our solar labor standards. Let us also consider the very people this bill is designed to help, through market rate jobs. Let's "teach them how to fish". Please join with me in **support of HB 908 with amendments**. Thank you

