



MARYLAND STATE & D.C. AFL-CIO

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**SB 44 - Maryland Electricians Act - Revisions
Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
January 26, 2023**

SUPPORT

**Donna S. Edwards
President
Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO**

Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB44. My name is Donna S. Edwards, and I am the President of the Maryland State and District of Columbia AFL-CIO. On behalf of Maryland's 300,000 union members, I offer the following comments.

SB 44 clarifies language regarding electrical apprenticeships, licensing requirements, and insurance matters for the electrical trades. The bill establishes that approval of state electrical apprenticeship programs be completed by the Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning. Maryland made this change in 2017 to comply with federal regulations, but failed to remove the old references to other entities.

By changing the wording in current law from inactive to uninsured, the Maryland Electrician's Act allows master electricians that no longer want to carry expensive insurance to continue working as an electrician as long as they do not act in their capacity as a master electrician. Current law requires that licensed master electricians carry general liability insurance and property damage insurance. This change will allow more electricians to continue working in a lesser capacity.

We encourage a favorable report for SB44.

Thank you.