

JOSEPH F. DABBS: Business Manager • THOMAS C. MYERS: President • RICHARD D. WILKINSON: Vice President CHRISTOPHER M. CASH: Financial Secretary • RICHARD G. MURPHY: Recording Secretary • PAULO C. HENRIQUES: Treasurer



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 456 HEALTHY WORKING FAMILY ACT-RAILROAD EMPLOYEES-UNPAID LEAVE March 2, 2023

TO: Hon. Melony Griffith, Chair and members of the Senate Finance Committee From: Tom Clark, Political Director, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 26

Madam Chair and members of the Committee, our hardworking Railroad Employees need you to support their health, their well-being, and their families. They need you to **support SB 456**. Sick and safe leave is a quality of life issue and we need to give railroad employees a better quality of life and the dignity that comes with giving a hard day's work.

It is hard to believe that in 2023, we have railroad employees fighting for UNPAID sick and safe leave. These Maryland citizens, who our responsible for so many lives, need sick and safe leave, for the good of all of us. This is a safety at the workplace issue, as well as a family issue. Imagine not having the luxury or right to call in sick when you are ill or have to take care of a relative in an emergency. I believe this is a necessity, the ability to take a limited amount of UNPAID time off, and not be subject to disciplinary action from your employer. If the Railroad Industry cannot see the benefit of sick and safe leave for their employees, then both you as legislators and I as a Maryland citizen must act and act now!

Please join with me and support our railroad employees, support mental health, support physical well-being, support family life and support SB 456. Thank you.



.....