



**District Council No. 51**  
4700 Boston Way  
Lanham, MD 20706  
(301) 918-0182  
(301) 918-3177 Fax

## ONE VOICE

Representing:  
Protective and Decorative  
Coatings Applicators  
Painters  
Decorators  
Wall Coverers  
Drywall Finishers  
Glaziers  
Architectural Metal Workers  
Glass Workers  
Civil Service Workers  
Shipyards Workers  
Maintenance Workers  
Metal Polishers  
Metalizers  
Bridge Painters  
Riggers  
Tank Painters  
Marine Painters  
Containment Workers  
Lead Abatement Workers  
Sand Blasters  
Water Blasters  
Sign Painters  
Paint Makers

## ONE AGENDA

Affiliated Local Unions  
Local Union 1  
Local Union 368  
Local Union 474  
Local Union 890  
Local Union 963  
Local Union 1100  
Local Union 1846  
Local Union 1937  
Local Union 1997

Over 100 Years Serving  
Maryland  
Virginia  
Washington, DC

# INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PAINTERS AND ALLIED TRADES, AFL-CIO DISTRICT COUNCIL NO. 51

February 12, 2024

House of Delegates Economic Matters Committee:

C.T. Wilson, Chair  
Brian M. Crosby, Vice Chair  
House Office Building, Room 231  
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Honorable Members of the House Economic Matters Committee:

I am Roxana Mejia Director of Government and Community Affairs at the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades District Council 51 covering the Maryland, Virginia, and District of Columbia jurisdictions. I represent over 1,500 members in the finishing trades of the construction industry.

I want to thank the Committee Members for taking the time to read our SUPPORT to HB 205- Unemployment Insurance Modernization Act of 2024.

HB 205 sets the maximum weekly benefit to 2/3 times the average weekly wage and the minimum weekly benefit to 15% of the average weekly wage. The maximum benefit would be phased in between now and 2027 when it would reach 2/3. This modification will bring Maryland into line with the 26 other states that index their maximum weekly wage. Maryland last updated its minimum and maximum benefits in 2010, but did not include indexing them to inflation.

HB 205 will provide sufficient benefits while unemployed persons search for work. It will balance incentives for work search to ensure job matching is ideal for employers and employees.

Please vote favorably on HB 205.

Thank you.

Roxana Mejia  
Director of Government & Community Affairs  
IUPAT DC 51

