



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT HB 1496 BUILDING CODE-CONSTRUCTION & RENOVATION HOUSING UNITS ELECTRIC VEHICLE PARKING SPACES March 12, 2025

TO: Chair Marc Korman, Vice Chair Boyce, and Environment & Transportation Committee
FROM: Tom Clark, Political Director, Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 26

Mr. Chair, Madam Vice Chair, distinguished members of the Committee, I ask that you join me and 21st century Marylanders in **support of HB 1496**. I sarcastically mention the 21st century, because it is important to realize that we have a high demand for EV infrastructure on the residential level, and this demand will only get larger. HB 1496 is a step in the right direction.

In 2025 we are building multifamily dwellings that will stand for at least 200 years. Yet, as soon as these brand-new homes are sold, they are antiquated. These new homes are built for the Marylander of the 1960's, not for the Marylander of the near future. Whether legislators or residents like it, I would imagine everyone of us will be driving and looking to charge Electric Vehicles within 40 years. Without legislation like HB 1496, their will be neighborhoods torn apart by the upgraded infrastructure needed for Electric Vehicle charging stations. As a journeyman electrician, this will bring me lucrative business opportunities. As a Marylander, it frustrates me why this great state will not have the foresight to look into the energy of the future. The same is true for major renovations to homes. I am reminded of the question: If not now, when? When will the peoples representatives look out for its own citizens. I am not talking about the person that lives in Potomac, with a Tesla or two, and a three-car garage. I am referring to the middle-class family that lives in the town home and wants to charge their affordable vehicle in the EV world of **today**.

I simply ask you to build the homes of tomorrow, with the electrical infrastructure of today. Please make a vote for 2025 and beyond and give a **favorable report to HB 1496**. Thank you.

