

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 37

AFFILIATED WITH THE AFL-CIO Chartered May 1, 1900

February 4,2020

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From: Robert A. Holsey Jr., Business Manager
I.U.O.E. Local 37
3615 North Point Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21222

Chairman Davis, Honorable Delegates and Committee Members; I am writing today to ask you to vote unfavorably on The Right to Work Bill, HB 163.

I ask this of you, for one reason, this legislation will severely impact the middle-class working men and women in the state of Maryland. This legislation is very deceiving, it does not guarantee a person a job, it only guarantees them the right not to join a union; a right every man and woman already has. No union can force an individual to join its ranks, just as no government or agency can deny an individual the right to join a union. In every state that has Right to Work legislation these same men and women have experienced a much lower standard of living, causing extreme hardships to their families which in turn will lead them to seek assistance from state agencies in order for them to put food on the table, care for their sick or any other help they may need. Is this what we want for the citizens of Maryland? I hope not!

I only ask you to look at the states that have had RTW legislation in place for several years and see what changed after its passage. I believe you will find a much higher poverty level and a large increase in minimum wage job opportunities. Some family's now need to work several jobs just to make ends meet. Again, I ask, is this what we want for the citizens of Maryland? I hope not!

I thank you for taking the time to read this correspondence and again ask you to vote against this legislation.

Best regards,