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To: Members of the Senate Finance Committee

From: Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake

Re: Oppose Senate Bill 434 – Labor and Employment – Occupational Safety and Health-Heat Stress Standards

IEC Chesapeake opposes Senate Bill (SB) 434 and requests an unfavorable report. IEC Chesapeake's members adhere to all State and Federal safety regulations and take seriously their responsibility to provide a safe work environment for their employees. However, IEC Chesapeake believes that SB434 creates burdensome and costly regulatory requirements. Specifically, the requirements of hiring additional workers, creating engineering controls, administrative controls, and training and educational requirements would be cost prohibitive on many businesses since the proposed legislation applies to all businesses regardless of their number of employees.

Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake represents members throughout Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Washington, D.C. Our headquarters are located in Laurel, Maryland. IEC Chesapeake has an extensive apprenticeship program for training electricians. In addition, IEC Chesapeake promotes green economic growth by providing education and working with contractor members, industry partners, government policy makers and inspectors to increase the use of renewable energy.

Thanks for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact Grant Shmelzer, Executive Director of IEC Chesapeake, at 301-621-9545, extension 114 or at gshmelzer@iec-chesapeake.com or Kevin O'Keeffe at 410-382-7844 or at kevin@kokeeffelaw.com.

