

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS - LOCAL UNION No. 24

AFFILIATED WITH:

Baltimore-D.C. Metro Building Trades Council — AFL-CIO
Baltimore Port Council
Baltimore Metro Council — AFL-CIO
Central MD Labor Council — AFL-CIO
Del-Mar-Va Labor Council — AFL-CIO
Maryland State - D.C. — AFL-CIO
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Written Testimony of
Peter Demchuk, Business Manager, IBEW LOCAL 24
Before the
Economic Matters Committee On
HB 20 Maryland Stadium Authority – Applicability of Prevailing Wage

Support

February 2, 2021

Chairman Davis and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony in **support** of House Bill 20.

For the record, my name is Peter Demchuk. I am a 41 year member, and the Business Manager, of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 24 located in Baltimore. In addition, I am a lifelong resident of Maryland, residing in District 7 of Baltimore County. I represent approximately 2,000 hardworking, Maryland tax paying electricians.

The work we do is not easy; it requires high skills and has a fair amount of risk. We understand this, which is why we provide extensive training and fight for quality wages, pensions, and health care.

We believe everyone doing this type of work is entitled to these wages, regardless of their affiliation with our organization.

Prevailing wage requires contractors to employ registered apprentices and journeypersons that are compensated with fair wages and fringe benefits that include defined pensions and health insurance for themselves and their families with no pre-existing conditions. They are also part of the Joint Apprenticeship Training Council with labor and management funding our apprenticeship programs at no cost to our apprentices and setting the gold standard for apprenticeship programs throughout the State. Prevailing wages used for State funded projects provide an influx of money into local communities and into the more rural parts of MD. It provides a means of employment that can keep younger residents from having to leave their homes to find work in D.C., Baltimore or out of state. Tax payer dollars need to be used to maintain the economic standard in the communities where State funded projects are being constructed. This is why I am asking you to give HB 20 a **favorable** report.

Sincerely,



Peter P. Demchuk

Business Manager

PPD:mgs

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