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To: Members of the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

From: Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake

Re: Support Senate Bill 762 – Maryland Electricians Act - Revisions

IEC Chesapeake supports Senate Bill (SB) 762 and asks for a favorable report. SB 762 seeks to create a statewide journey person electrician license. The creation of this new statewide license is good for business, the electrical industry, and consumers. IEC Chesapeake believes that reciprocity with neighboring jurisdictions will make it easier for Maryland electricians to do business in this region.

SB 762 relies on information from a variety of groups who participated in the 2020 Maryland State Electricians Licensing Work Group. The proposed legislation will create much needed efficiencies in the electrical industry. The bill will also create additional protections for consumers. In addition, SB 762 takes into consideration the concerns of local governments and their electrical boards as Maryland transitions toward the implementation of a statewide journey person electrician license.

For nearly a decade, IEC Chesapeake has worked closely with its industry partners and local and state officials in an effort to create a statewide journey person electrician license. Now is the time to pass SB 762 which is a common sense solution to make the electrical industry more efficient for both businesses and consumers.

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.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact Grant Shmelzer, Executive Director of IEC Chesapeake, at 1-301-621-9545, extension 114 or at gshmelzer@iec-chesapeake.com or Kevin O'Keeffe at 410-382-7844 or at kevin@kokeeffelaw.com.

