



# International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 762 MARYLAND ELECTRICIANS ACT MARCH 2, 2021

To: Hon. Paul G. Pinsky, Chair, and members of the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

From: Tom Clark, Political Director, Licensed Electrician, IBEW Local 26

Mr. Chair and members of the Committee, I enthusiastically encourage you to **support SB 762**, a much-needed bill that has been years in the making. Introduced in a bipartisan manner and applauded by Electricians throughout the state, SB 762 coordinates the licensing and regulations of Electrical Journeypersons and Apprentices.

Maryland is one of the last states that does not issue "statewide" licenses. This antiquated practice could have an electrician and their employer having to apply, test, and pay for over 20 county, city and jurisdictional licenses. If this bill passes it will greatly reduce the red tape and confusion and allow businesses to thrive in the Freestate. It puts everyone on the same page and gives a young apprentice or journeyperson a specific set of rules to follow as they safely practice their trade in our state. As a practicing electrician in the DMV, I have found that most of my colleagues get tested, licensed and pay fees to the District of Columbia and Virginia because they do offer "statewide" licenses. Currently, most electricians avoid being licensed in Maryland because of the confusion, leaving our state without the revenue generated by the fees to carry a statewide license. This bill does two things: Makes our electrical licensing uniform and adds money to the state coffers. WIN! WIN!

This bill only effects a tiny portion of Marylanders, but it is good for our State and the women and men that work every day, lighting and powering the great state of Maryland. Please vote for uniformity among the jurisdictions and **support SB 762**.

Thank you,  
Tom Clark  
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