

February 24, 2022

The Honorable CT Wilson, Chair
The Honorable Brian Crosby, Vice Chair
House Economic Matters Committee
House Office Building Room 231
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**HB 569 – Energy Generation, Transmission, and Storage Projects –
Required Community Benefit Agreement and Labor Standards**

Testimony of Kevin Cosby

Position – Favorable

Thank you Chair Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby, and members of the Committee for the opportunity to testify on HB 569.

My name is Kevin Cosby. I am the owner of AC Power, Inc. We are an MBE electrical contractor based out of Baltimore, Maryland. We have been in business for 16 years.

We are proud to be a small company that helps create middle-class construction jobs for Maryland residents.

AC Power supports HB569.

As a small, Maryland-based construction contractor, I can tell you firsthand that requiring labor standards, especially prevailing wage, on energy generation projects will help my company compete and win work. That's because prevailing wage requirements level the playing field for reputable, high-road contractors like AC Power. Prevailing wage prevents low-road contractors from undercutting high-road contractors committed to paying decent wages and benefits.

My company is a great example of how prevailing wage builds value into infrastructure investment. Prevailing wage promotes the success of local contractors and creates jobs for local residents – both of which help build Maryland's economy.

We at AC Power would love to grow our business in Maryland even more, and provide even more residents with quality, good-paying jobs. The passage of HB 569 will help us make that happen.

Please issue a favorable report on this bill.