

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
National Safety Council



AFL-CIO-CLC

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21230

C. SAMUEL CURRERI, President
DAVID W. SPRINGHAM, JR., Recording Secretary
JEROME T. MILLER, Financial Secretary
MICHAEL J. McHALE, Business Manager

OFFICE:

2701 W. PATAPSCO AVE
SUITE 200

Phone: 410-247-5511

FAX: 410-536-4338

Written Testimony of

Rico Albacarys, Assistant Business Agent, IBEW LOCAL 24

Before the Economic Matters Committee On

HB 724 Unemployment Insurance Modernization Act of 2023

Support

February 17, 2023

Chairman Wilson and Committee Members,

I am writing to express my strong **support** for **HB 724**. When workers who were gainfully employed lose their job through no fault of their own, it can have a devastating effect on them and their families. The current unemployment payments are equal to less than the Maryland State minimum wage, and these payments are not enough for recently unemployed workers to meet their basic needs.

An increase in unemployment payments would help families meet these needs, pay bills, and put food on the table. Additionally, studies have shown that providing sufficient financial resources to individuals in need can help them find new employment and boost the overall economy.

Therefore, I urge you to vote **favorably** on **HB 724**.

Sincerely,

Rico Albacarys

Assistant Business Agent IBEW Local 24