

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

Rico Albacarys, Assistant Business Agent, IBEW LOCAL 24

Before the House Economic Matters Committee On

HB 554 Public Utilities – Investor-Owned Utilities – Prevailing Wage

Support

February 6, 2024

Chairman Wilson and Committee Members,

My name is Rico Albacarys and I am a proud member and employee of IBEW Local 24 in Baltimore. I am writing to express my strong **support** for **House Bill 554**, which requires family-sustaining wages and apprenticeship standards for investor-owned utility construction of electrical transmission lines and facilities.

As someone who cares deeply about the well-being of workers and the future of our communities, I believe that this bill is crucial in ensuring that good, family-sustaining jobs are created and maintained in the electrical transmission sector. It is imperative that we incentivize businesses to create quality jobs that pay fair wages and provide opportunities for workers to advance and improve their skills. In addition, this bill will help to ensure that our communities benefit from well-trained and skilled workers in this important field. I believe that this will lead to improved safety, increased efficiency, and a more reliable electrical grid for all.

I respectfully request that you vote **favorably** on **House Bill 554** and help create a better future for our state.

Sincerely,

Rico Albacarys
Assistant Business Agent IBEW Local 24