



**MICHAEL POWERS  
IBEW LOCAL 70  
TESTIMONY-FAVORABLE  
HB 554**

**FEBRUARY 5, 2024**

Dear Chair Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby, and Members of the Economic Matters Committee,

I am Michael Powers, Safety Coordinator of IBEW Local Union 70 in Forestville, MD, writing to express my wholehearted support for House Bill 554. This bill, mandating prevailing wages for investor-owned utility construction of electrical transmission lines and facilities, is crucial for the well-being of workers, their families, and the communities we serve.

I firmly believe that HB 554 will foster the creation and maintenance of jobs in this sector, ensuring fair compensation for the skilled labor involved. Prevailing wages not only support workers and their families but also contribute to the overall growth and prosperity of our communities.

By endorsing this bill, we pave the way for job opportunities that promote skill development, efficiency, and safety. I believe a favorable report on HB 554 is essential for the advancement of our workforce and the continued progress of our communities.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

**I respectfully request a favorable report on HB 554.**

Sincerely,

Michael Powers  
Safety Coordinator  
IBEW Local Union 70  
Forestville, MD