

# INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS - LOCAL UNION No. 24

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Baltimore Port Council  
Baltimore Metro Council - 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 820 Nuclear Energy Development Task Force

### Support

February 27, 2024

Chairman Wilson and Committee Members,

My name is Rico Albacarys and I am a member and employee of IBEW Local 24 in Baltimore. I am writing to express our **support** for **House Bill 820**, the Nuclear Energy Development Task Force, and its pivotal role in advancing Maryland's energy landscape towards sustainability.

Nuclear power is a proven technology capable of generating significant amounts of electricity with minimal greenhouse gas emissions. HB 820 rightly establishes a task force to study and recommend strategies for deploying nuclear power generation.

HB 820 recognizes the potential of newer technologies like Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) in enhancing the cost-effectiveness and safety of nuclear power. SMRs offer scalability, flexibility, and improved economics compared to traditional nuclear reactors, making them a promising avenue for bolstering our energy infrastructure while meeting emission reduction goals.

This commission would play a vital role in addressing regulatory, financial, and social barriers to nuclear power deployment while ensuring equitable access to renewable energy and fostering job creation with family-sustaining wages. We ask you to give a **favorable** report to **House Bill 820** and seize this opportunity to chart a path towards a sustainable energy future for Maryland.

Sincerely,

Rico Albacarys  
Assistant Business Agent IBEW Local 24