



# MARYLAND STATE & D.C. AFL-CIO

AFFILIATED WITH NATIONAL AFL-CIO

7 School Street • Annapolis, Maryland 21401-2096

Balto. (410) 269-1940 • Fax (410) 280-2956

*President*

**Donna S. Edwards**

*Secretary-Treasurer*

**Gerald W. Jackson**

**HB 267 - Electricity and Gas - Retail Supply - Regulation and Consumer Protection**  
**House Economic Matters Committee**  
**February 15, 2024**

**SUPPORT**

**Donna S. Edwards**  
**President**  
**Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO**

Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 267. My name is Donna S. Edwards, and I am the President of the Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO. On behalf of the 300,000 union members in the state of Maryland, I offer the following comments.

HB 267 requires energy salespeople to obtain licenses if they offer electricity or gas supply agreements in Maryland. Under Maryland's deregulated utility choice model, consumers are eligible to choose their energy providers while operating on the same transmission lines already in their area. Energy companies aggressively market themselves to consumers with contracts that may include misleading claims. HB 267 sets guardrails around green energy providers by requiring clean energy suppliers to abide by PJM region standards and not use misleading advertising to deceive consumers about what they are actually purchasing.

Maryland's consumers deserve protections and transparency when participating in the state's retail energy market. For the state's rollout of clean energy to be successful, consumers and workers need confidence that the energy providers and salespeople they are interacting with are trustworthy, transparent, and truthful.

We urge the committee to issue a favorable report for HB 267.