

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS - LOCAL UNION No. 24



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Baltimore Port Council
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Written Testimony of
Michael McHale, Business Manager, IBEW LOCAL 24
Before the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee On
SB 783 Renewable Energy – Net Energy Metering Aggregation, Solar Renewable Energy
Credits, and Taxes on Solar Energy Generating Systems (Brighter Tomorrow Act)

Support With Amendments

February 28, 2024

Chairman Feldman and Committee Members,

My name is Michael McHale, Business Manager and 39-year member of IBEW Local 24. I am writing to express our strong **support** of **SB 783** with the sponsor amendments. We recognize its pivotal role in advancing Maryland's renewable energy landscape while prioritizing the creation of high-quality, middle-class jobs.

The Brighter Tomorrow Act signifies a significant step forward in maximizing the efficiency and effectiveness of renewable energy systems. By allowing eligible customer-generators to receive excess generation from multiple systems, it streamlines operations and encourages broader adoption of clean energy technologies. Likewise, the establishment of the Small Solar Energy Generating System Incentive Program is a commendable initiative.

Especially important are the measures to ensure fair labor practices within the industry. The inclusion of prevailing wage provisions, underscores our commitment to upholding labor standards and protecting the livelihoods of workers involved in solar energy projects. In essence, the Brighter Tomorrow Act represents a comprehensive and balanced approach to advancing renewable energy while simultaneously fostering economic development and job creation. We urge you to give **SB 783** with amendments a **favorable** report.

Sincerely,

Michael McHale
Business Manager
IBEW Local 24