



**TESTIMONY FOR HB0554**  
**Public Utilities – Investor-Owned Utilities – Prevailing Wage**

**Bill Sponsor:** Delegate Charkoudian

**Committee:** Economic Matters

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Cecilia Plante, co-chair

**Position:** FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of HB0554 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

The legislature has fought hard in recent years to raise the minimum wage in Maryland, and to try to ensure that working Marylanders make a living wage. We commend them for looking out for hard-working Marylanders. This bill, if enacted, would ensure that employees, contractors, and sub-contractors working for investor-owned utilities (gas companies, electric companies, and gas and electric companies) will receive the prevailing wage.

It is unconscionable that employers of any kind in Maryland deny their workers a living wage in order to line their pockets and those of their investors.

We strongly support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.