

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS - LOCAL UNION No. 24

AFFILIATED WITH:

Baltimore-D.C. Metro Building Trades Council - AFL-CIO
Baltimore Port Council
Baltimore Metro Council - AFL-CIO
Central MD Labor Council - AFL-CIO
Del-Mar-Va Labor Council - AFL-CIO
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Written Testimony of
Rico Albacarys, Assistant Business Agent, IBEW LOCAL 24
Before the Senate Budget & Taxation Committee On
SB 403 State Procurement – Construction and Services – Contract Modification

Support

February 3, 2025

Chairman Guzzone and Committee Members,

My name is Rico Albacarys and I am a member and employee of IBEW Local 24, writing to express our **support of Senate Bill 403**, which ensures fairness in public procurement contracts by requiring equitable adjustments for increased labor costs due to statutory changes or collective bargaining agreements.

The way contracts are currently structured, there are no escalations for cost-of-living-adjustments. SB 403 provides a straightforward solution by requiring contract modifications that reflect these adjustments, ensuring that contractors can fairly compensate their workforce without jeopardizing the financial viability of public projects.

This bill strengthens Maryland's commitment to fair labor practices and prevents scenarios where workers are denied cost-of-living raises due to rigid contracts that fail to account for evolving labor standards. It also protects taxpayers by maintaining project stability, avoiding costly disputes, and ensuring that skilled workers remain on the job without disruption.

We urge the Committee to **support SB 403** to uphold Maryland's values of fairness, stability, and respect for the hardworking men and women who build and maintain our state's infrastructure. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rico Albacarys
Assistant Business Agent
IBEW Local 24