



February 26, 2025

To: Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

From: Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake

Re: Support Senate Bill (SB) 835 -State Finance and Procurement - Retention Proceeds

Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake represents approximately 200 electrical contractors who employ approximately 15,000 workers in the mid-Atlantic region. In addition, IEC Chesapeake has approximately 1,000 registered apprentices in the electrical trade including low voltage apprentices.

IEC Chesapeake supports SB835 and requests a favorable report. IEC Chesapeake supports SB835 which would require a unit of government or contractor to pay undisputed retention proceeds within 90 days after the substantial completion of a project. This legislation would benefit contractors with their cash flow by making monies owed to them available within 90 days.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact Grant Shmelzer, Executive Director of IEC Chesapeake, at 301-646-0197 or at gshmelzer@iec-chesapeake.com or Kevin O’Keeffe at 410-382-7844 or at kevin@kokeeffelaw.com.

About Us

Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake represents members throughout Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, D.C. Our headquarters are located in Laurel, Maryland. IEC Chesapeake has an extensive apprenticeship program for training electricians. In addition, IEC Chesapeake promotes green economic growth by providing education and working with contractor members, industry partners, government policy makers and inspectors to increase the use of renewable energy.