



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS HB 1217 NATURAL GAS GENERATING FACILITIES – AUTHORIZATION February 21, 2025

TO: Chair Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby, Members of the Economic Matters Committee
FROM: Tom Clark, Political Director, Int. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 26

Mr. Chair and members of the Committee, I, like the General Assembly, would love to see Maryland use 100% renewable energy. However, the goals we set were much too high, much too soon. We put “the cart before the horse”. Now, because of these lofty goals, the Maryland consumer is paying the price.

I am an electrician and represent electricians, I would love to reap the abundance of work that solar, wind and other renewable energy brings. I am also a Maryland consumer of energy that wants a cheaper energy bill and Maryland to produce more of its own energy. For these reasons I **support with amendment, HB 1217.**

I would simply change the 50% requirement to **80%**. We are close to 43% at this current time, 50% is just a stones throw away. If we want to help the Maryland consumer, and force faster production of renewable energy, let’s make use of the energy source that is natural gas. Members of the committee I respectfully ask you to **support HB 1217 with this one amendment.** Thank you.

