



T 301.621.9545
800.470.3013
F 301.912.1665
www.iecchesapeake.com

8751 Freestate Drive
Suite 250
Laurel, MD 20723

March 4, 2025

To: Members of the Health and Government Operations Committee

From: Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake

Re: **Oppose House Bill (HB) 850 - Procurement - Public Work Contracts - Data Dashboard (Maryland Public Works and Apprenticeship Transparency Act)**

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 nearly 1,000 electrical apprentices. IEC Chesapeake opposes HB850 because it creates an undue burdensome requirement that contractors must provide information to the Department of Labor on a weekly basis for purpose of populating a data dashboard.

The staff time needed to prepare and send weekly reports would especially impact small contractors. Most of the information being sought in HB850 can be found in existing reports - certified payroll reports - which are required under current law. Layering on additional reporting requirements could lead to higher bids at a time when the state and local governments are facing significant financial challenges.

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.