



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO HB 1047 INCOME TAX-CREDIT FOR EMPLOYERS OF ELIGIBLE APPRENTICES- ALTERATIONS

February 20, 2025

**TO: CHAIR ATTERBEARY, VICE CHAIR WILKINS AND MEMBERS OF THE
WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE**
FROM: TOM CLARK, POLITICAL DIRECTOR, IBEW LOCAL 26

Madam Chair, Madam Vice Chair, distinguished members of the Ways and Means Committee. Please join me in **opposition to HB 1047**, a bill that uses the term “apprenticeship”, simply to exploit the young Maryland worker as an excuse to give a tax credit. The apprenticeship model is a three-legged stool that consists of on-the job training, classroom work, and job placement. **HB 1047** falls short of offering any classroom learning and job placement. It’s simply a tax credit to the employer with no benefit to the young people of our state.

The title of this bill specifically uses the word “eligible”. Evidently the sponsors of this Bill want to make everyone “eligible”. Hence the idea of calling anyone that has worked for an employer for 7 months, an apprentice. No teaching, no job placement, just 7 months being employed. This bill is a free giveaway (strangely while we are in a budget crisis) to employers that along with the sponsors of this bill, want to exploit young Maryland workers.

I ask the sponsors to re-consider this bill and ask the members of the committee to join me in complete **opposition to HB 1047**. Thank you.

