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February 25, 2026

To: Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

From: Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake

Re: **Letter of Support Senate Bill (SB) 671 – Procurement Contracts and Construction Contracts - Payments**

IEC Chesapeake membership includes 150 contractors and 70 business partners. IEC Chesapeake members represent approximately 9,000 employees. In addition, it has approximately 1,300 electrical apprentices. IEC Chesapeake supports SB671 and requests a favorable report.

SB671 establishes a process to ensure that contractors are promptly paid for projects in which they have successfully completed the work. The entity ultimately responsible for ensuring that contractors and subcontractors are paid in a timely fashion is the owner which under SB671 includes local governmental agencies including school boards, municipalities, and counties, and does not permit a contractual waiver for timely payments. In addition, interest payments are mandated for failure to pay contractors and subcontractors in a timely manner. One of the biggest challenges facing contractors and subcontractors is getting paid on time and having adequate cash flow. Therefore, IEC Chesapeake requests a favorable report on SB671.

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@iecchesapeake.com](mailto:gshmelzer@iecchesapeake.com) or Kevin O’Keeffe at 410-382-7844 or at [kevin@kokeeffelaw.com](mailto: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.