

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS - LOCAL UNION No. 24

AFFILIATED WITH:

Baltimore-D.C. Metro Building Trades Council - AFL-CIO
Baltimore Port Council
Baltimore Metro Council - AFL-CIO
Central MD Labor Council - AFL-CIO
Del-Mar-Va Labor Council - AFL-CIO
Maryland State - D.C. - AFL-CIO
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Written Testimony of
Rico Albacarys, Assistant Business Agent, IBEW LOCAL 24
Before the House Economic Matters Committee On
HB 317 Recipients of Economic Development Assistance or State Contracts - Certification
of Compliance With State Labor Laws

Favorable

February 13, 2026

Madam Chair Valderrama, Vice Chair Charkoudian, and Committee Members,

My name is Rico Albacarys, and I am a member and employee of IBEW Local 24, writing to express support for House Bill 317.

Maryland invests significant public resources to support business growth and job creation. Those funds should go to employers that follow the law and treat their workers fairly, not to companies that have violated wage and hour laws or misclassify workers. House Bill 317 helps ensure that public dollars are directed to responsible employers.

This bill builds on procurement reforms that set clear expectations for labor compliance and accountability. It extends those same basic standards to businesses that receive major economic development assistance or hold large state contracts by requiring a simple annual certification that they are not out of compliance with final labor law determinations.

House Bill 317 safeguards taxpayers by ensuring our resources are not used to reward misconduct. When Maryland invests in a business, we should know that company is operating legally and paying its workers properly.

For these reasons, we urge a favorable report on House Bill 317.

Sincerely,

Rico Albacarys
Assistant Business Agent
IBEW Local 24