

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS - LOCAL UNION No. 24

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Baltimore Port Council
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JONATHAN P. MCLAUGHLIN, President
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JEROME T. MILLER, Financial Secretary
MICHAEL J. MCHALE, Business Manager

OFFICE:
2701 W. PATAPSCO AVENUE
SUITE 200

AFL-CIO-CLC

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21230

Phone: 410-247-5511

FAX: 410-536-4338

Written Testimony of
Rico Albacarys, Assistant Business Agent, IBEW LOCAL 24
Before the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee On
SB 429 Maryland Energy Administration - Study on Land-Based Wind Energy

Favorable

February 17, 2026

Chairman Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Committee Members,

My name is Rico Albacarys, and I am a member and employee of IBEW Local 24, writing to express support for Senate Bill 429.

Maryland's electricity demand is growing while generation continues to decline. At the same time, the State has made strong commitments to clean energy. To keep the lights on and meet those standards, we need to take a serious look at every realistic source of reliable, homegrown power.

Senate Bill 429 does exactly that by directing the Maryland Energy Administration to study the potential for land-based wind in Maryland. This bill does not approve or require any specific project. It simply ensures that decisions about our energy future are based on real data rather than assumptions. Other states have shown that wind generation can coexist with military and aviation systems when modern mitigation tools are used, and Maryland deserves the same fact-based evaluation.

Land based wind also represents good, long term jobs for skilled electrical workers and a way to keep energy dollars in Maryland instead of sending them out of state.

For these reasons, we urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 429.

Sincerely,

Rico Albacarys
Assistant Business Agent
IBEW Local 24