
March 3, 2026

To: Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee

From: Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake

Re: **Oppose House Bill (HB) 1104 – Residential Solar Energy Systems - Local Inspections and Permitting**

IEC Chesapeake membership includes 150 contractors and 70 business partners. IEC Chesapeake members represent approximately 9,000 employees. In addition, it has approximately 1300 electrical apprentices.

IEC Chesapeake opposes HB1104 for public safety reasons. Inspections on residential solar projects should continue to be in-person rather than by photographs or recorded videos. In-person inspections ensure that residential solar projects are performed by licensed electricians who completed the work according to all code requirements.

For the above reasons, IEC Chesapeake is requesting an unfavorable report. 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 or Kevin O’Keeffe at 410-382-7844 or at kevin@kokeffelaw.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.