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March 3, 2026

To: Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee  
Members of the House Appropriations Committee

From: Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake

Re: Support House Bill (HB) 1040 - Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund -  
Mandated Uses - Climate Change Programs

Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake represents approximately 150 electrical contractors who employ approximately 9,000 workers in the mid-Atlantic region. In addition, IEC Chesapeake has approximately 1,300 registered apprentices in the electrical trade.

It is essential that renewable energy projects use licensed electricians. IEC Chesapeake is a leader in training skilled workers on renewable energy products. IEC Chesapeake supports HB1040 which seeks to provide significant and consistent funding for five years to support a wide variety of programs and initiatives to reduce the impact of climate change. IEC Chesapeake's members provide skilled labor for projects that reduce climate change.

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.