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To: Members of the Senate Finance and Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committees

From: Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake

Re: Support Senate Bill 302 – Joint Committee on Workforce Development

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IEC Chesapeake supports SB302 and requests a favorable report. IEC Chesapeake has an extensive apprenticeship training program to develop skilled electricians. There is, and will continue to be, a severe shortage of workers in the skilled trades. Senate Bill 302 will establish a joint legislative committee which will among other things examine apprenticeship programs and the use of workforce training funds. Senate Bill 302 requires an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly. This annual report will provide the blueprint for any future legislative or regulatory changes in the area of workforce development.

Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake represents members throughout Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, 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.

Thanks for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact Grant Shmelzer, Executive Director of IEC Chesapeake, at 301-621-9545, extension 114 or at [gshmelzer@iec-chesapeake.com](mailto:gshmelzer@iec-chesapeake.com) or Kevin O'Keeffe at 410-382-7844 or at [kevin@kokeeffelaw.com](mailto:kevin@kokeeffelaw.com).

