

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

National Safety Council



AFL-CIO-CLC

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Testimony of

Peter Demchuk, Business Manager, IBEW, LOCAL 24

Before the

Environment and Transportation Committee

On

HB-63 State Finance – Prohibited Appropriations – Magnetic Levitation Transportation System

Strongly Oppose

February 9, 2021

Dear Chairman Barve and Committee Members,

For the record, my name is Peter Demchuk. I am a lifelong resident of Maryland currently residing in District 7 of Baltimore County. I am a 41-year member, and Business Manager, of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 24 located in Baltimore. I represent approximately 2,000 hardworking, Maryland tax paying electricians. I started as an apprentice in 1979 and have held numerous positions over the years. The reason I give my background is to show my commitment to not only my profession but to all working men and women in Maryland.

HB-63 is NOT good for my members, other building tradespersons, and Marylanders because it would eliminate the possibility of 74,000 construction jobs.

It will eliminate an opportunity for a young Marylander who cannot afford a College Education a chance to learn a trade as an apprentice. This trade is more than a job, it is a CAREER and an opportunity for future work that pays well and has great benefits.

My members and I oppose this bill; we want Maryland to be an innovator of High Speed Rail Transportation in the United States. This line may one day travel up and down the Northeast corridor, think of the economic impact that will create for our state.

I'm sure some of you have traveled I-95 or the Baltimore and Washington Parkway during rush hour and have experienced the stop and go traffic jams that are increasing in our area every year. This project has the potential to ease that problem along with helping to create economic activity and good jobs.

Please give HB-63 an **unfavorable** report.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter P. Demchuk". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Peter" and last name "Demchuk" clearly legible.

Peter P. Demchuk

PPD:CLR
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