

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS - LOCAL UNION No. 24

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Baltimore Port Council
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Written Testimony of

Peter Demchuk, Business Manager, IBEW, LOCAL 24

Before the

Senate Finance Committee on

SB - 514 Health Facilities – Hospitals – Medical Debt Protection

SUPPORT

February 23, 2021

Dear Madame Chair Kelley, and members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony supporting Senate Bill 514.

For the record, my name is Peter Demchuk. I am a 41-year member, and the Business Manager, of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 24, located in Baltimore. Additionally, I am a lifelong resident of Maryland currently residing in District 7 of Baltimore County.

Medical debt is a major problem for Maryland residents, especially those from low-income households and among communities of color. While the members of our union have great family health insurance some of their parents or other family members may not. That's why I am asking for your help to end predatory hospital debt collection practices. Everyone deserves a right to health care.

This is why I'm asking you to give SB 514 a favorable report.

Thank you,

Peter P. Demchuk

PPD:clr
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