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February 16, 2023

To: Members of the House Economic Matters Committee

From: Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake

Re: Oppose House Bill 61 – Utility Contractors - Employment and Licensure - Requirements and Application

Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake opposes House Bill (HB) 61 and requests an unfavorable report.

IEC Chesapeake opposes HB61 because of the additional requirement of a contractor having to be in compliance with local wage and hour laws for the previous three years. The various local wage and hour laws differ across jurisdictions and it is possible that a contractor could inadvertently not be in compliance with these local laws. The potential confusion about complying with various local wage and hour laws should not result in a contractor being barred from working on an investor-owned electric company or gas and electric company project.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact Grant Shmelzer, Executive Director of IEC Chesapeake, at 1-301-621-9545, 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).

### **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.

