



# International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 648 BUSINESS REGULATION-CONTRACTORS, SUBCONTRACTORS, and BROKERS-PROHIBITED CONDUCT

February 16, 2024

**TO: Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Klausmeier and Finance Committee**

**FROM: Tom Clark, Political Director, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 26**

Madam Chair, Madam Vice Chair, and distinguished members of the Senate Finance Committee. I encourage you to **support SB 648**, a bill designed to address the ever-growing wage theft problem. A problem that unfortunately affects the immigrant community and all those underrepresented in the construction field.

In 2024, Maryland legislators shy away from crimes punishable by prison sentences. I often agree with that sentiment and hope to protect those most vulnerable. The beauty of SB 648, is that it does not call for jail time, rather a ban from operating as a labor broker. Not those accused, but those convicted of malfeasance under federal or state law. This piece of legislation is designed to safeguard well-meaning tradespeople against corrupt contractors, sub-contractors and brokers.

Please join me in **support of SB 648**. Thank you.

Chartered 1892  
Washington, D.C.

