



# LIUNA!

MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL OFFICE

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*General President*

June 9, 2023

**MICHAEL F. SABITONI**  
*General Secretary-Treasurer*

The Honorable Frank Burns  
Professional Licensure Committee  
Pennsylvania House of Representatives  
332 Main Capitol Building  
PO Box 202072  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

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*Special Assistant to the  
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**DONATO A. BIANCO, JR.**

**STEPHEN E. FARNER**

**PAUL V. HOGROGIAN**

Dear Chairman Burns:

It has come to my attention that the House Professional Licensure Committee has scheduled a public hearing on HB 390. My organization, the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), voiced serious concerns about this measure when it was presented in prior legislative sessions, which have not been addressed. Therefore, we remain resolutely opposed to this bill.

As you may know, LIUNA represents over 30,000 working families in Pennsylvania. The men and women who make up our membership perform a range of work in construction and other occupations in both the public and private sectors. Historically, our members have helped to build and maintain much of this country's infrastructure, including roads, bridges, schools, commercial buildings, pipelines, energy systems, and water, stormwater, and wastewater systems. In addition to specialized construction, laborers perform some of the hardest tasks on a jobsite, including excavation, trenching, moving and assembling equipment and lines, backfilling, and resurfacing.

Our organization provides specialized training through registered apprenticeship programs and ongoing continuing education to ensure that the range of work that we do is completed to the highest industry standards with the utmost regard to workplace and public safety. In exchange for their training and skilled work, LIUNA members earn fair wages, receive quality health insurance, and gain a retirement benefit that allows them to age with dignity. Our work enables our members to enjoy middle-class lifestyles, raise families, and give back to their communities. Our members spend their earnings at local businesses, pay local and state taxes, utilize their insurance benefits at local hospitals, and continue to support the local economy with their retirement earnings long after they stop working.

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*Feel the Power*

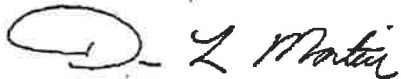


Language proposed in HB 390 would irreparably harm LIUNA members by prohibiting them from doing work that they have traditionally performed. Specifically, it would require our workers to obtain a plumbers' license to continue the job tasks they have been trained to perform on a daily basis. This language would result in job and opportunity loss for a significant number of LIUNA workers and their families.

Moreover, this legislation impacts the jurisdiction of our union and our scope of work, which has been defined through decades of negotiations between unions and with employers and set forth in collective bargaining agreements. We believe that these jurisdictional matters should not be decided by legislation, and that they are best left to negotiations between respective unions who work on the jobsites.

I hope that this information is helpful to informing your further consideration and any potential action on HB 390. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, our business managers in Pennsylvania, or our government affairs staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. L. Martire". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "D".

Dennis L. Martire  
Vice President and Mid-Atlantic Regional Manager  
Laborers' International Union of North America