



# International Union of Operating Engineers

LOCAL 18 AND ITS BRANCHES • SERVING OHIO

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Office of  
District No. 3

To: Ohio House of Representatives – Finance Committee  
From: Mark A. Totman  
Date: 2/28/2019

Re: HB 62 - Transportation Budget

Chairman Oelslager/Vice-Chair Scherer/Ranking Member Cera:

The International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), Local 18 would like to go on record of complete unequivocal support of HB 62.

IUOE Local 18 is comprised of over 16,000 professional men and women who operate the heavy equipment in Ohio's Heavy and Highway, Building and Energy Industries, "We Build Ohio."

Local 18's jurisdiction covers eighty-five (85) counties in Ohio and four (4) counties in Northern Kentucky.

Local 18 is signatory to over 1,200 contractors. Our members and contractors do approximately ninety-nine percent (99%) of all ODOT projects.

Local 18 leads the nation in training of heavy equipment operators for the various construction industries. Our four (4) state-of-the-art training facilities combined for over 180,000 training hours in 2018. We are constantly upgrading our journeyman skills and teaching new apprentices each year to keep Ohio's construction contractors supplied with safe, skilled heavy equipment operators for today and the future.

Our Apprenticeship Program is self-funded. A deduction of \$0.80 an hour from each members' paycheck goes toward fully funding our training program. That amounts to approximately \$10 million dollars a year currently our members contribute back to be the best heavy equipment operators they can be for our contractors and the businesses our contractors work for.

HB 62 is more than just a Highway Budget bill, it is a JOBS BILL!

Let's face it. It has been 13 years since we have done anything with highway funding that will start to solve the real issue of an underfunded transportation budget for decades now in Ohio.

HB 62 will quite frankly address the needs of all Ohioans to provide safe reliable roads and bridges to every corner of the state.

HB 62 will be an economic driver for Ohio Businesses and Construction Industry, providing hundreds of thousands of good paying jobs to our members and their families along with providing new and updated infrastructure to the state, county, city and townships across Ohio. Thus attracting new businesses we are so desperately seeking for jobs and opportunities for all Ohioans.

As the old adage goes "If You Build It, They Will Come".

In summary, IUOE Local 18 stands firmly behind HB 62 and in support of the full \$0.18 increase along with the proposed indexing to keep up with inflation to keep Ohio's economy moving forward now and into the future.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or if our organization can be of any assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark A. Totman". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Mark A. Totman