

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

LOCAL UNION NO. 1105



AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

MEETS FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH IN LABOR HALL

“ELECTRICAL WORK FOR ELECTRICAL WORKERS”
NEWARK, OHIO

Proponent Testimony by Ashley Labaki on House Bill 197
Business Development Liaison, IBEW L.U. 1105
House Public Utilities Committee
September 20, 2023

Chairman Stein, Vice-Chair Blasdel, Ranking Member Weinstein, and members of the House Public Utilities Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit proponent testimony on behalf of House Bill 197 (HB 197), a bill to provide job opportunities and community benefits in the areas in which our members live and raise their families. My name is Ashley Labaki, and I am the Business Development Liaison for IBEW Local 1105.

IBEW Local 1105 is the Newark, Ohio branch of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. We provide representation, education, and career opportunities for 600 electricians in Licking, Muskingum, Guernsey, Coshocton, and Perry Counties as well as the lower portions of Knox and Tuscarawas Counties.

Community Solar means great things for the members of the IBEW. We have long been a part of the installation and maintenance of the electrical systems that power our nation. We pride ourselves on being the top in our industry, and this relates to solar work as well, as we have worked to increase that portion of our apprenticeship training and offer continuing education for current electricians.

The solar projects being built throughout Ohio mean job opportunities close to home for our members. They mean a renewable energy source for our communities and can help offset the demand for power we are experiencing due to the significant growth of industry throughout our state. We look forward to providing quality, experienced manpower for these projects and to the benefits they will provide to our state.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on behalf of HB 197. I am happy to answer your questions.