

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Local Union No. 540



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Chair McColley, Vice Chair Schuring, Ranking Member Williams, and members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee:

The 653 electricians represented by IBEW Local 540 in Canton, Ohio strongly urge support and passage of Senate Bill 307. This legislation is essential to the future of Ohio's auto industry and can ensure the state's leadership in the rapidly growing electric vehicle sector.

From commercial trucks to transit buses to private autos and motorcycles, the future of transportation is electrification. To be at the forefront of this industry the state needs a robust vehicle charging infrastructure and the trained electricians to install a safe, reliable network of charging equipment.

The IBEW has been preparing for the auto industry's transition to electric vehicles for several years. We were the first organization to work with the auto industry and charging equipment manufacturers to create training curriculum and a national certification for installation of EV charging equipment. More than 1,000 electricians in the state of Ohio have already completed the certification in the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP).

But to be a national leader in this industry we need more. More training faculty, more equipment and expanded training facilities, and more certified EVITP electricians. This bill appropriately addresses these needs.

The economic impact for our communities and our electricians is significant. The funding of this legislation will allow communities, small and large, throughout the state to participate in the economic benefits of working in the manufacturing, R&D, and infrastructure build-out of the EV industry.

Please pass this legislation in this session and secure a leadership role for Ohio in the advancing national energy transition.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A m B" with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Aaron M. Brown
Business Manager
IBEW Local 540