

MEMORANDUM

To: Ohio House of Representatives - Commerce and Labor Committee
From: Scott Hayes
Date: 10/26/2021

RE: HB 235 - High Hazard Training Certification Act

Chairman Stein / Vice-Chair Johnson / Ranking Member Lepore-Hagan:

Chairman Stein, committee members, it is my pleasure to join you today to speak in favor of HB 235, a bill that ensures that work done in high-hazard environments is done safely and without impact to the communities in which our facilities operate.

I'm Scott Hayes, Health, Safety, Environmental and Government Relations manager for the Toledo Refining Company. We are proud of our 130-year history of bringing high-quality and affordable products to the market place. A few points concerning HB 235 for your consideration:

- It applies only to Ohio's oil refineries per the bill's definition of "High Hazard Facility" (specific NAICS code)
- It applies only to construction workers (NOT direct refinery employees)
- It creates 2 classifications of Journeyman construction workers; Class A & Class B. This provides flexibility for covered facilities.
 - Class A Journeyman: Graduate of any state or DOL approved apprenticeship program + OSHA 30 safety certification
 - Class B Journeyman: Individual with 5 years industrial experience in his craft + OSHA 30 safety certification
- Apprentices in any state or DOL approved apprenticeship training programs are included
- NO WAGE OR BENEFIT REQUIREMENTS; NO DESIGNATION THE PROGRAMS MUST BE UNION PROGRAMS!
- As a health and safety professional with over 30 years of experience, I've observed that watering down safety requirements, including training and mentoring, inevitably leads to poor safety performance, poor productivity, rework and poor quality.

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In an industry like ours, we have to be cognizant of our potential effect on the communities in which we operate. Poor training can lead to catastrophic failures that could have profound effects to adjacent neighbors. Therefore, only the most qualified, credentialed, and mentored employees are allowed onsite.

- I have been at facilities when short-sighted efforts to save money by lessening requirements of labor have resulted in regretful consequences. In my opinion, you get what you pay for, and paying more for high quality labor is always the better buy.
- I believe that I can speak with some credibility on the issue, as the facility that I work for has just celebrated over 1,000,000 safe work hours and over a year without an OSHA recordable injury for employees and contractors alike- something that is rare, and something that we are quite proud of. We credit this success to our high expectations and requirements for working.

Thank you for your consideration of this important safety legislation.

Scott Hayes
Toledo Refining Company
1819 Woodville Rd.
Oregon, OH 43616