



Powering your building. Building your trust.

April 1, 2022

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

The 32 electrical contractors and 3,500 staff and electricians who comprise the Power Connect consortium 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.

Our industry has been preparing for the auto industry's transition to electric vehicles for several years. As members of the National Electrical Contractors Association and the I.B.E.W we were the first organizations to work with the auto industry and charging equipment manufacturers to create training curriculum and a national certification for safe installation of EV charging equipment. More than 200 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 employees 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.

Collectively our members employ thousands of hard working Ohioans in the Central Ohio region. This legislation will allow our industry to expand our workforce training services and create even more well paying jobs for the people in our communities. 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 "Kelly A. Waters".

Kelly A. Waters, Director

Power Connect

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