

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD  
OF  
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Local Union 141  
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Proponent Testimony by Glenn Douglas Giffin on House Bill 197  
Business Manager of IBEW Local Union 141  
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 recapture the energy market for Ohio.

My name is Glenn D. Giffin and I am the Business Manager of IBEW Local Union 141. I am also a 30 year member! We wire the electrical industry in Ohio with some jurisdiction in West Virginia.

I represent 375 electricians in the Ohio Valley with 175 being Ohio residents. We train on all aspects from residential wiring to commercial and industrial wiring. IBEW 141 prides itself on our training and market share. When there is a need for training, we excel in capturing the next new market. Our training is local and linked into the Electrical Training Alliance, nationally.

Times have changed drastically when it comes to energy generation. The main energy generation for the past 50 years was coal fired power plants and we have seen the closing of them. We have seen first hand the decline in jobs. To date there has been three major power house closings in the past three years. All of these plants were within a 45 minute drive for our workforce.

RE Burger power station closed operation in 2011. Five units at the Burger Plant took 500 mega watts off the grid. Kammer plant stopped it's power generation in May 2015 taking another 630 mega watts off grid. W.H. Sammis power plant closed all 7 units by May 3, 2023. This then took another 2,180 mega watts off the grid. In total, these 3 plants took 3,310 mega watts of the grid.

These closings did not just put plant maintenance workers on the unemployed lines, it put construction workers and IBEW members out of work. With all of these closings, AEP has announced it will retire 469 mega watt Northeastern Oklahoma by 2026. They will take 5.5 giga watt Rockport unit 1 in Indiana by 2028 and 595 mega watt portion of three units. AEP is looking at taking 1.8 giga watt Cardinal Plant in Ohio by 2030. The list of closures goes on and on.

We in Ohio and in the energy business should be looking to the future of energy generation. We should be looking to be a strong state when it comes to clean energy. We should be looking at being proactive when it comes to the strength of energy production. Ohio deserves to be the leader in energy production.

I urge you to consider Ohioans and jobs when it comes to HB 197.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Glenn D. Giffin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a blue ink color.

Glenn D. Giffin  
Business Manager IBEW Local Union 141