

**Testimony on HB 4715 and 4716 on behalf of the
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Michigan State Conference
October 27, 2021**

Dear members of the House Energy Committee,

The IBEW Michigan State Conference currently opposes House Bill 4715 and House Bill 4716. While we support the ongoing conversion to cleaner energy sources in Michigan and nationally, existing weaknesses in Michigan's electrical licensing statutes must be addressed first.

Earlier this year, the Michigan House overwhelmingly passed HB 4125; a bill that seeks to close a loophole in the Michigan Skilled Trades Act that allows renewable developers to construct electric generation facilities using unlicensed electricians. This loophole, while it is currently being exploited by only a handful of renewable developers, nonetheless leaves Michigan workers and the public at risk. Until HB 4125 is signed into law, the IBEW will continue to have concerns about legislation like HB 4715 and HB 4716 that creates new avenues for non-utility construction of electric generation.

Signed,

Jonas Talbott, President
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