



JULY
2021

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Brothers and Sisters:

The Fourth of July is quickly approaching and I want to wish all of you a happy and safe Independence Day. As you spend time with your family, shoot off fireworks and eat hot dogs (150 million of them according to the National Sausage and Hot Dog Council), please take a moment to remember that the Fourth of July is about our patriotism to our country.

My favorite definition of Patriotism is: "the feeling of love, devotion, and sense of attachment to a homeland or the country and alliance with other citizens who share the same sentiment to create a feeling of oneness among the people." This definition is what we do every day

within our Local Unions and throughout our industries, "create a feeling of oneness among the people". It is what makes America thrive, what makes our economy grow and our families secure. Thank you for all you do and have done to help build this amazing country.

Much like our country, our district continues to thrive. Since my last newsletter, several contracts have been successfully renegotiated and we continue to see steady work throughout the district. We are averaging in construction 145 to 165 unfilled calls each week, which means we all need to focus on our recruitment efforts because more work is on the way. Solar, wind, battery storage and electrical vehicle charging stations will dominate over the next several years and we need to make sure that IBEW members are controlling those markets.

Local unions within the district have begun doing job fairs and blitzes in an effort to secure more manpower. Great job Locals 80 and 369 for making the extra effort to secure more manpower.

Thank you to everyone that participated in the first (and hopefully last) Fourth District Virtual Progress Meeting. I hope that you found the information shared was informative and helpful to you in your leadership role(s).

All the presentations from the Progress Meeting are now available on Local Connections under our very own 4th District page at <https://secure.ibew.org/Conferences/2021-4thDistrictProgressMtg/index.asp>. Additionally, also attached to this newsletter you will find a survey to complete about the 2021 Progress Meeting, but more importantly, the survey covers what you want to see at next year's progress meeting scheduled for July 12th, 13th, and 14th in Columbus, Ohio. Please take the time to complete the survey and return it to our office by mail or email (ivpd_04@ibew.org). It will provide us with valuable information to make next year's progress meeting relevant to your needs.



IBEW FOURTH DISTRICT

You may recall that during the progress meeting one of the polls that was conducted was, "whether or not to share market share numbers throughout the district." The response was an overwhelming 96% of participants in favor of sharing them. I previously shared those numbers by region at our Regional Agreement meetings last month but wanted to share the entire list with you now.

Please know that publishing these numbers is not meant to create division amongst our Fourth District family. Instead, as the ole saying goes, the first step to fixing any problem is to admit that there is one. So please, use these numbers proactively to help each other grow market share throughout the district. No one has all the answers, or we would all be at 100% market share. Also, know that market share in smaller local unions can be somewhat skewed by one major job or project. Share your successful tactics and your failures with your fellow brothers and sisters. We are our brother's keeper and there is much that can be learned from each other if we are all working together. Which, I might add, includes your membership. If you have not already done so, please make sure that you have created a strong communication network with your membership. They are the strength and the power of the IBEW and I think we can all agree that in a fight for our livelihood we want to be able to bring ALL of our Brothers and Sisters to the fight.

A great example of our strength can be seen in a challenge we gave to all the Ohio local unions last month; to get 25% of their membership to sign on to a letter opposing legislation in Ohio that would affect the solar industry. Four local unions met that challenge, Local 972 with 35%, Local 1105 with 32%, Local 1996 with 31% and Local 578 with 28% membership participation. Great work! That is leadership!

Again, I wish you all a safe and sane Fourth of July. Thank you for all you do on behalf of your membership and the IBEW every day.

In Solidarity,



Gina P. Cooper
IBEW Fourth District, IVP

Fourth District 2019 Inside Construction Market Share

	Employment Share	Wage Share
8	84%	93%
24	14%	14%
26	46%	53%
32	33%	31%
38	72%	76%
64	67%	63%
80	8%	8%
82	35%	32%
129	67%	67%
141	86%	75%
212	31%	28%
246	62%	66%
306	45%	33%
307	24%	25%
317	76%	83%
369	26%	29%
466	28%	33%
540	51%	48%
573	35%	22%
575	60%	66%
596	42%	49%
648	40%	36%
666	21%	25%
673	59%	48%
683	30%	29%
688	33%	27%
816	66%	75%
968	53%	48%
972	74%	65%
1105	87%	90%
1340	13%	9%
1701	14%	12%

WHERE'S THE WORK??

Here are some ongoing and upcoming manpower needs across the District to keep our unemployed members aware of opportunities and assist locals in successfully staffing projects.

Local Union 573 (Warren, OH) – Lordstown Battery/Lordstown Motor – Est. Peak Manpower – 300 JW from 8/1/20 – 8/1/22 (Peak Date of 8/1/21)

Local Union 80 (Norfolk, VA) – Microsoft Data – Est. Peak Manpower – 500 JW from 1/1/21

Local Union 666 (Richmond, VA) – Facebook, Hospital, Various Other Projects – Est. Peak Manpower – 100 JW Ongoing

Local Union 1105 (Newark, OH) – Facebook/Google and Various Other Projects – Est. Peak Manpower – 150 JW from 10/1/17 – 5/1/26 (Peak Date of 5/1/21)

Local Union 683 (Columbus, OH) – Google and Other Projects – Est. Peak Manpower – 150 JW from 3/1/19 – 5/1/26 (Peak Date of 6/1/21)

Local Union 212 (Cincinnati, OH) – Amazon/Stadium – Est. Peak Manpower – 150 JW from 8/1/20 – 5/1/21 (Peak Date: 1/1/21)

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT UPDATE BY: JON ROSENBERGER

Charging Stations

Thank you to the local unions that shared the information regarding the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP) with contractors. Contractor listings on the EVITP website have increased considerably since the last newsletter. I would encourage local unions to continue discussions with your contractors about EVITP. Business Development in conjunction with district international representatives have met with both AEP and Dominion Energy regarding the EVITP and future plans for electric vehicle charging.

Natural Gas Work

Representatives from the Business Development team recently attended the Marcellus and Manufacturing Development Conference. The main take away from the conference for the Fourth District is how desirable West Virginia is for future development. West Virginia has a number of assets that provide a strong foundation for a low-carbon economy, including abundant natural resources and a hard-working and highly skilled workforce, with strong expertise in the energy, chemicals, manufacturing, forestry, and agricultural sectors. West Virginia is uniquely poised as a distribution hub, as it is within 500 miles of many major demand centers throughout the Eastern and Mid-Western United States. Rail and waterways can be leveraged to efficiently transport goods and captured carbon to these demand centers. Recent legislation authorizing power purchase agreements in West Virginia demonstrate that momentum is building in West Virginia to support the state's low-carbon energy resources. Additional support, including incentives and the removal of regulatory barriers, will be crucial to the continued development of these resources in the state. It is also critical that broadband expansion is realized in West Virginia. Many federal grants to support infrastructure investments, including broadband, have matching funds requirements that exceed the financial capacity of local public entities, who often also lack sufficient administrative capacity. A state-operated match fund, public-private partnerships, and flexible match requirements would all help to support infrastructure investments in WV.

Utility Scale Solar

Business Development's work on developing relationships in the utility scale solar space has also continued. Most recently, focus has shifted to working with outside contractors to encourage them to get involved in post rack and panel work. If you have outside contractors in your area that you have not yet met with to discuss this important piece of obtaining utility scale solar work, please talk to your servicing representative or give me a call so we can set up a meeting to discuss these opportunities with them.



Construction Organizing By: Gary Osborne

Many areas of the Fourth District are still experiencing a need for manpower. These needs are only going to grow worse. Developers are planning a number of utility scale solar projects across our district which require a great deal of manpower and most are fast pace projects. If the past few years have taught us any lessons, it is that we cannot depend on Book II to supply our additional manpower needs. One failure to produce the needed manpower for a customer could have a ripple effect across the IBEW with that customer. Failure is not an option.

One primary responsibility for a construction local union is to furnish manpower to their signatory employers. To assist with that task, each construction local union in the Fourth District has developed their own Manpower Recruitment Plan. These plans should be reviewed frequently and revised as needed. This is a working document, not a plan put together simply to please Membership Development. Business Managers should review their work outlook on a quarterly basis to assess their future manpower needs. If there are plans for a development which will utilize more manpower than you have available, implement your plan immediately. If you wait until the contractor mobilizes to the site, you are too late!

We all know that organizing is the number one priority for the Fourth District construction locals. No matter if we are organizing the work, the workers, or the employers; our obligation to our members is to provide work opportunities and our obligation to our employers is to provide the needed employees. Think outside the box on your recruiting efforts. Utilizing your signatory employers is a great resource to reach the key open shop employees. You have many recruiting tools in your toolbox, use what best works for your area. Let us not be the one failure that costs the IBEW a customer, let us be the success that gains the IBEW a customer.

Professional and Industrial Organizing

By: Bert McDermitt, Jr.



IBEW Local 978 (Charleston, WV) – James Richards, Business Manager Area Wide Protective (AWP) Traffic Control Workers – Ohio River Valley

Many times, Traffic Control Workers work beside our membership within our Utility and Outside Construction Locals' jurisdictions. These folks are currently working with IBEW members employed with Thayer and New River Electric on AEP properties. After a resounding yes vote, BM Richards and IR Tippie used bargaining surveys from the bargaining unit to identify and prioritize issues and included workers in the bargaining process. Together they negotiated a 3-year Tentative Agreement, with strong contract language and a minimum of \$3.00 per hour wage increase and maximum for some of \$5.00 per hour. The agreement was reviewed and ratified by the bargaining unit on June 22 & 23, 2021. Thank you to Locals 317 and 978 for their support and the use of their facilities throughout this campaign. Now it is time to begin work promoting these successes and the value of being Union through our membership with groups on additional utility properties.

IBEW Local 1900 (Upper Marlboro, MD) – Jerry Williford, Business Manager Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative (SVEC)

Chartered in 1936, SVEC was the first electric cooperative chartered in Virginia. SVEC maintains over 8,100 miles of electric lines from Winchester, VA down the I-81 Corridor to Staunton, VA. After receiving a web contact, an initial meeting was scheduled at a picnic shelter. With a turnout of nearly 50 workers, meetings were scheduled in each of the five Districts. Over 50% of the potential bargaining unit have now signed cards. Plans are being made to help them reach their goal of filing their petition when they reach 65%.

The support of our membership in these areas can help them to reach their goal. Simply talking with their neighbors about how being a member has benefited you and your family can sometimes help organize. Thank you to Locals 26, 50, 1181, 1737, 1900 and 1950 who all have members who live in this region of the Commonwealth and are supporting these workers.

IBEW Local 666 (Richmond, VA) – Charles Skelly, Business Manager Campaign Workers

Just prior to the primary election day in Virginia the campaign workers for the Terry McCauliffe campaign contacted Local 666 about organizing. A former IBEW member from the Presidential campaigns led the effort when she first reached out to IBEW Local 1 in St. Louis. They have reached majority status and have been voluntarily recognized. Negotiations are ongoing for the coordinated campaign workers who Local 666 have represented since the 2020 election cycle began. The T-Mac campaign workers will join the coordinated campaign workers at the table in July to become one.

Each of these campaigns are a testament to the power of our membership. Many campaigns have former members, are working beside our members or are neighbors with our Brothers and Sisters. It is important that we communicate, engage and empower our members to help raise the standard of living for all workers.

Thank you to the following Locals who have worked together with Lead Organizers during the last quarter to assist when potential organizing opportunities were identified.

Local 24 – Baltimore, MD – Siemens Field Service Engineers (Medical Equipment Technicians)

Local 26 – Washington, DC – Day & Zimmerman at North Anna Nuclear Power Plant

Local 50 – Richmond, VA – Security Guards at Surry Nuclear Power Plant

Local 71 – Columbus, OH – Utility group at Lorain-Medina Electric Cooperative in Wellington, OH

Local 369 – Louisville, KY – Asplundh LCTT in Danville, KY

Local 816 – Paducah, KY – Slot Machine Technicians at the Oak Grove Racing & Gaming Center in Oak Grove, KY and a manufacturing group with Siemens in Marion, KY.

Local 1181 – Charlottesville, VA – Telecom group at Firefly Fiber Broadband of Central Virginia Electric Cooperative

Local 1950 – Waynesboro, VA – Telecom group in the 10th District at Northstate a SEGRA company in Highpoint

2021 REGIONAL AGREEMENT MEETING SCHEDULE



Wednesday, September 29, 2021 (AM) – NORA Region
Wednesday, September 29, 2021 (PM) – Southwest Region
Thursday, September 30, 2021 (AM) – Central Region
Thursday, September 30, 2021 (PM) – MD, VA, DC Region

AM Sessions – 9:00am to 12:00pm

PM Sessions – 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Congratulations



Congratulations to the following members of the Fourth District staff who have recently retired or will be soon. We wish you a long and healthy retirement. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to the IBEW.

James Kravec, Local Union 1377, Business Manager
Ron Ols, Fourth District State Organizing Coordinator
Rick Orange, Local Union 666, Organizer
Tom Wright, Local Union 306, Organizer



I would like to welcome the following new officers and representatives to the Fourth District family:

Ryan Dyar, Local Union 972, Organizer
Nick Hamilton, Local Union 1105, Organizer
Rick Mattingly, Local Union 1718, Business Manager/President
William Merriman, Local Union 666, Organizer
Dave Phillips, State Organizing Coordinator (August 1st)
Donny Rutledge, State Organizing Coordinator
John Sabo, Local Union 1377, Business Manager (July 20th)
Wes Shull, Local Union 1950, Business Manager/President
Daniel Tighe, Local Union 1507, Business Manager/President
Cody Ulmer, Local Union 306, Organizer
Jason Wright, Local Union 1466, Business Manager/President



2021 UPCOMING VIRTUAL TRAININGS

While we would prefer to host in person trainings at your local union that are customized to meet your needs, we realize that is not always possible, particularly for some of our smaller local unions.

Therefore, to ensure that everyone has the opportunity for training, we are offering the following trainings in a virtual format. **Please register a minimum of two (2) weeks in advance of these trainings to allow time to mail class handouts to participants.**

Stewards Virtual Training

(2 evenings, for 2 hours each)

September 8 & 9

December 1 & 2

Local Union Election Judge Virtual Training

(2 evenings, for 2 hours each)

December 8 & 9

New Officer Leadership Virtual Training

(2 evenings, for 2 hours each)

August 4 & 5

To sign up for any of the above trainings, please send an email request, **from the Business Manager,** with the names of the participants to:

IVPD_04@ibew.org

CAN'T MAKE THESE TRAININGS WORK WITH YOUR SCHEDULE???

Don't stress...we've got your back. If you cannot make the scheduled virtual trainings work for you, let us know and we can schedule a training just for your local union.



Congratulations to the winner of the Fourth District convention pin design, submitted by Local Union 26. Thank you to all who participated in the submission & voting process!

Upcoming EVENTS

2021 PROJECTED SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

(Please note: these dates are subject to be changed)

DATES:	CONFERENCE:	LOCATION:
August 15 – 19	CIR	Washington, DC
October 3 - 6	28 th Constitutional Convention of the AFL-CIO	Philadelphia, PA
October 3 – 8	Fall Telecom Meeting	TradeWinds Resort - St. Pete Beach, FL
October 20 - 23	RENEW	Hilton New Orleans Riverside - New Orleans, LA
October 24 - 27	Railroad and Government Employees	Hilton - Myrtle Beach, SC
November 1- 4	Membership Development	Hyatt Regency Atlanta - Atlanta, GA
November 13 – 17	CIR	Washington, DC
November 15- 18	Utility	New Orleans, LA
November 16 - 18	Nuclear	New Orleans, LA

2022 PROJECTED SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

DATES	CONFERENCE	LOCATION
January 23 – 26	IBEW NECA Benefits Conference	TradeWinds Resort - St. Pete's Beach, FL
February 13 – 17	CIR	Washington, DC
March 7 – 11	BMT Conference	Hyatt Regency - San Antonio, TX
March 31 – April 2	Construction Conference	Washington, DC
May 9 – 13	IBEW Convention	Chicago, IL
May 15 – 19	CIR	Washington, DC
May 23 – 24	Safety Caucus	Tempe Mission Palms Hotel - Tempe, AZ
May 24 – 26	Utility Conference	TradeWinds Resort - St. Pete Beach, FL
June 11 – 16	AFL-CIO Convention	Philadelphia, PA
July 11 – 15	Fourth District Progress Meeting	Columbus, OH
August 14 – 18	CIR	Washington, DC
August 30 – September 1	Membership Development Conference	Grand Hyatt San Antonio – San Antonio, TX
September 5 – 10	Women's Conference	Hyatt Regency Washington D.C.
September 18 – 22	Gas Conferences (hosted by IBEW)	New Orleans, LA
October 16 – 19	Railroad & Government Employees Conference	Hilton - Myrtle Beach, SC
October 24 – 26	Fall Telecom and Broadcasting Meetings	TradeWinds Resort - St. Pete's Beach, FL
November 13 – 15	Nuclear Conference	TradeWinds Resort - St. Pete's Beach, FL
November 13 – 17	CIR	Washington, DC

NEW CONTRACTS & CONTRACTORS! GREAT WORK!!

Local Union 70 (James Horton, BM)

- ❖ New Contractors
 - Brothers and Brothers Powerline & Utility Services
 - Tucker Underground, LLC
 - VSL utilizing a Transitional Agreement

Local 463 (Mike Peterson, BM)

- ❖ New MOA for a new Material Coordinator Classification

Local Union 540 (Aaron Brown, BM)

- ❖ New Contractor: R B Electric LLC
 - 2 employees

Local Union 688 (Carl Neutzling, BM)

- ❖ CenturyLink Unit - Approved a new three (3) year contract with 1.5% raises each year!

Local Union 816 (James Evans, BM)

- ❖ Ratified first agreement with Employees of AMP Hydro Facility in Smithland, KY

Local Union 978 (James Richards, BM)

- ❖ Ratified a 3-year contract with AWP (more details in the P&I Organizing article on page 4 of the newsletter)

Local Union 1181 (James Barnes, BM)

- ❖ CenturyLink - Ratified a new three (3) year contract with 1.5% raises each year!

Local Union 1501 (Dion Guthrie, BM)

- ❖ Amtote – Ratified a new two (2) year contract with a 3% raise increase and 2.75% increase.

Local Union 1507 (Danny Tighe, BM)

- ❖ New MOA with Windstream to bring back Construction Lineman & Retail Consultants

IBEW Women's Committee Update

The Fourth District would like to thank Sister Ann Peek of Local Union 8 (Toledo, Ohio) for her dedication and service as the Fourth District Representative on the International Women's Committee. Sister Peek served on the committee for the last 3 years. Her volunteer efforts to further development of local union women's committees within our district have not gone unnoticed. We wish Sister Peek well.

The Fourth District will be appointing a new member to the International Women's Committee shortly. We look forward to continuing to charter women's committees within the district. In the meantime, if you have questions about starting a women's committee at your local union contact the Fourth District Office.



to the NEW officers of the Ohio State Conference

Dan Shirey (Local Union 575) – Vice President

Aaron Brown (Local Union 540) – Executive Board

Shane Bauman (Local Union 245) – Executive Board

Jeff McGuffey (Local Union 648) – Executive Board

A Message from Your Veteran's Committee 4th District Representative

Hello 4th District,

My name is Nichole Smith and I am your representative for the IBEW Veterans Advisory Committee. I spent 6 years in the Air Force as a Cryptologic Language Analyst (1N3) stationed at Ft. Meade. I separated from the military in 2013 and now, seven years later, am back at Ft. Meade doing groundwork on a new parking garage and wrapping up my third year as an apprentice from Local 24.

As a veteran who left the military without much of a plan, I really struggled to find *meaningful* work for far too long afterwards. Joining the IBEW has given me the chance to do work I can take pride in again, and a sense of brotherhood I can only hope to pay forward.

After the chaos of the last year and a half, I think many of us have seen first-hand the importance of a strong community. We can build a strong community amongst IBEW veterans by supporting the establishment and growth of local veterans committees. I have just begun the process of starting a veterans committee in my own Local, so please reach out to myself and Bert McDermitt if you have any questions, concerns, ideas, suggestions, or good military jokes. Thank you all for your time!

Nichole Smith: vetcom@ibewlocal24.org
Bert McDermitt: Bert_McDermitt@IBEW.org



Kentucky – Republican controlled House and Senate with a super majority, Democratic Governor

Legislation passed in 2021 session that hurts the IBEW and Organized Labor. **HB-475**, prevents Kentucky from enacting any Kentucky OSHA regulations in the state that are more stringent than the Federal OSHA regulations. Kentucky has enacted more stringent regulations such as fall protection, lock out tag out that exceeded Federal regulations. Governor Beshear vetoed, but Legislature override veto. **HB-5**, restricts the Governor from reorganizing Boards and Commissions without the Legislature's approval. Previously each Governor made several re-orgs to conform to their priorities. Governor Beshear committed to re-org Boards to include union members. Governor Beshear vetoed bill but was overridden by Legislature. In the upcoming 2022 session, expect bills with dramatic reductions in Unemployment Insurance. Kentucky has 26 weeks, which a bill in 2019 was 1 vote short of cutting the Unemployment Insurance amount by 40%.

Virginia – Democratic Controlled House, Senate & Governor

The stakes are high in this year's race to become Virginia's next governor. The Los Angeles Times' Janet Hook wrote, "Virginia provides the first big test of strength between parties since Biden was elected, and it could set the tone for the 2022 midterm election." The Associated Press' Sarah Rankin wrote that "[t]he race has also taken on heightened importance as Democrats aim to hold onto power after assuming full control of state government in 2020." The candidates competing for governor are Terry McAuliffe (D) and Glenn Younkin (R). McAuliffe (D) was Governor of Virginia from 2014 to 2018 and has a strong record to run on having brought 200,000 good paying jobs to Virginia, driving down unemployment rates, and raising personal income for Virginians. Glenn Younkin (R) is a political outsider that has not previously held any political office. He is the former co-CEO and president of The Carlyle Group, a private equity investment firm, where he worked from 1995 to 2020. In 2019, Democrats won majorities in both the state House and Senate, creating a Democratic trifecta in Virginia for the first time since 1994. The Virginia Association of the IBEW will officially endorse Terry McAuliffe (D) for Governor later this month. If McAuliffe is elected as Governor, and Democrats can maintain control of the House and Senate (Trifecta), we can build upon the legislative wins of the last General Assembly session and push the following legislative agenda this session:

- PLAs in higher ed construction – specifically larger state universities (Virginia Tech, UVA, William & Mary, James Madison, George Mason)
 - Stronger Tradesmen Licensing Legislation – including enforcement
 - Repeal of Right-to-Work Law (McAuliffe has said he will sign repeal of RTW if it gets to his desk)
 - Labor standards on clean energy, including PLAs for offshore wind, solar, specifically local hire requirements
 - Adding apprenticeship training centers data to state education scorecard
 - Support union jobs in charging infrastructure buildout, specifically EVITP
 - Oppose deregulation of the Utility industry.
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Washington, D.C. Legislative Update

The Washington, D.C. City Council is in session year-round with consecutive two-year sessions. The current two-year session runs from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. If a proposed bill does not get introduced and passed within the two-year session start and end dates, it dies.

The Washington, D.C. City Council recently approved a PLA on a new hospital on the St. Elizabeth Campus. There is also PLA language attached to a proposed hospital at Howard University, stating basically, if there is to be any District of Columbia monies used on the project, it must be done under a PLA. There are also changes to the Wage Theft Laws being worked on.

Maryland – Democratic Controlled House and Senate, Republican Governor

Maryland Legislature was in session this year from January 13, 2021 through April 12, 2021. **Senate Bill 9 - State Employees - Collective Bargaining - Applicability, Bargaining Processes, and Memorandums of Understanding** (Vetoed by Governor). Requiring the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland to act on behalf of the University System of Maryland and certain system institutions for the purpose of collective bargaining; requiring the Chancellor and the exclusive representative to negotiate the terms of one consolidated memorandum of understanding to apply to all bargaining units for employees of all system institutions represented by the exclusive representative; requiring a certain consolidated memorandum of understanding to include certain terms; etc. **Senate Bill 35 - Procurement – Prevailing Wage – Applicability**. Altering a certain limitation on the applicability of the Prevailing Wage Law to the construction of a public work for which 25%, rather than 50%, or more of the money used for construction is State money; altering the applicability of the Prevailing Wage Law to public work contracts by reducing the contract threshold amount from \$500,000 to \$250,000; applying the Act only to a public work contract executed on or after October 1, 2021; etc. **Senate Bill 83 - Utility Regulation - Consideration of Climate and Labor**. Requiring the Secretary of the Environment to prepare a certain recommendation in connection with certain issues considered by the Public Service Commission; requiring the Secretary of Natural Resources to incorporate an evaluation of the impact of certain electric power plants on climate change into the Power Plant Research Program; requiring the Commission to consider the maintenance of fair and stable labor standards and the protection of the global climate in supervising and regulating certain public service companies; etc. **Senate Bill 95 - Public Utilities - Investor-Owned Utilities - Prevailing Wage** (Vetoed by Governor). Requiring certain investor-owned gas, electric, or combination gas and electric companies to require certain contractors and subcontractors to pay their employees not less than the prevailing wage rate for certain projects involving the construction, reconstruction, installation, demolition, restoration, or alteration of any underground gas or electric infrastructure of the company, and any related traffic control activities. **Senate Bill 107 - Labor and Employment - Secure Maryland Wage Act**. Requiring that certain employees working at a heightened security interest location be paid a certain wage for certain periods of time; requiring certain employers to pay certain covered employees a certain supplement benefit rate in a certain manner beginning January 1, 2026; declaring findings of the General Assembly with regard to the ability to attract and retain qualified employees to heightened security locations; specifying that certain provisions of the Act do not diminish certain collective bargaining rights; etc. **Senate Bill 138 - Education - Baltimore County Public Library - Collective Bargaining**. Authorizing employees of the Baltimore County Public Library to form, join, and participate in an employee organization and engage in certain other activities related to collective bargaining; authorizing an employee organization seeking certification as the exclusive representative for the bargaining unit of employees to file a petition with the Director indicating this intent; specifying the responsibilities of the library and the certified exclusive representative; etc. **Senate Bill 556 - Collective Bargaining - Maryland School for the Deaf - Application and Separate Bargaining Unit**. Applying certain provisions of law that relate to collective bargaining for State employees to certain employees of the Maryland School for the Deaf; establishing a separate collective bargaining unit for certain faculty at the Maryland School for the Deaf; etc. **Senate Bill 746 - Education - Community Colleges - Collective Bargaining** (Vetoed by Governor). Establishing collective bargaining rights for certain community college employees; establishing procedures for the selection and certification of an exclusive bargaining representative; establishing a cap of four on the number of bargaining units in each community college; requiring certain contracts and agreements entered into before September 1, 2022, to remain in effect until the agreement or contract expires; requiring the Governor to include certain amounts in the annual budget bill for Baltimore City Community College; etc. **House Bill 13 - Influence on Collective Bargaining - Prohibition on Use of Public Funds**. Prohibiting a unit of State, county, or municipal government from knowingly using public funds to influence the decisions of county or municipal employees to support or oppose an employee organization that represents or seeks to represent the employees, or to become a member of an employee organization; etc.

Finally, Tom Perez, the former chair of the Democratic National Committee and former Labor secretary under Barack Obama, launched a bid for Maryland governor. The gubernatorial election in 2022 will be an open contest because Republican Gov. Larry Hogan is term limited.

Ohio – Republican controlled House Senate & Governor

Every new General Assembly in Ohio brings uncertainty with how Labor will be attacked in the next Legislative Session. In fact, one party has been in control of the Ohio Senate since 1985, the republican party, and they have not always been too friendly to labor. Thirty-six years of control; that could be an entire career of an IBEW member. Each year, we seem to battle Right to Work in a committee, an occasional bill to eliminate Prevailing Wage or Project Labor Agreements, along with language to raising the thresholds dollars on Prevailing Wage. This year, labor will most likely have to deal with an unemployment reform bill, the issue has been kicked down the road for some time and most likely will be introducing this year.

The Ohio 134th General Assembly has been extremely active this year with Senate Bill 52 and House Bill 118. The two bills are pretty much companion bills and would give township trustees veto-authority over solar and wind projects approved by the Ohio Power Siting Board. Both bills have the potential to cost thousands of jobs across the entire state. With the uncertainty in the regulatory process as it stands, this could be enough to force developers to relocate projects to more legislative friendly states with less restrictions.

Over the past month, SB 52 has had several amendments introduced with not much changing the bill. In fact, this past week SB52 was voted on the floor of the Ohio Senate and has moved on to the Ohio House. As you can see the bill is moving very fast through the General Assembly, for this reason alone we need all hands-on deck.

The past two weeks, the entire IBEW membership in Ohio has been doing a great job. IBEW Business Managers and Officers are reaching out to Representatives in the Ohio House voicing their concerns. IBEW members across the entire state are getting involved with the 4th District's online letter writing in opposition to SB52 & HB118. With the Ohio House due to vote on the bill at any time before June 30th, it is crucial that every IBEW member and their families get involved. Please use your voice, get online and sign up to send out an opposition letter, so that before the Ohio Legislators vote on SB52 or HB118 they hear from you, their constituents.

West Virginia – Republican Controlled House, Senate & Governor

In West Virginia, working people took another punch to the gut in the most recent Legislative Session. Many in the majority party chose corporations and the wealthy over hard-working blue collar West Virginians. For those that sided with us, on both sides of the aisle, I want to say "Thank you" for standing up for us. Again, this year, the focus was on licensing and making it easier for out-of-state workers and contractors to secure work in West Virginia. **HB 2006** passed and it exempts contractors from holding a license for residential projects under \$5,000.00 and for commercial projects under \$25,000.00. Previously, contractors were required to hold a license for any project over \$2,500.00. It also eliminated the requirement for painters to hold a contractor's license. **HB 2008** weakened the licensing requirements for Electricians, HVAC technicians, Plumbers, Sprinkler Fitters and Crane Operators. For our electricians, in order to obtain a Journeyman's license, you need only 1 year of experience and a Master's license can be obtained after 2 years. Prior to HB 2008's passage, an electrician had to show 4 years of experience to acquire a Journeyman's license and 5 years to get a Master's license. It also eliminated an Apprentice license so the person assisting an electrician doesn't need any license at all. And finally, as if this was not enough, this bill requires the State of West Virginia to accept any other state license, even if that state has lower qualifications and requirements.

Paycheck Protection passed this session after being beat back the last session or two and it affects only public employee unions. In effect, what the bill does is prevents public employers from deducting union dues from their employee's checks. Thus, making the union responsible to collect their dues directly from their members. Just a bite of the apple. They will come after the rest of us next.

We were able to successfully kill a couple of bad bills. **SB 303** aimed to prevent cities and counties from having prevailing wage, 18-point contractor qualifications and a higher minimum wage. This bill died in the Senate and was amended into **HB 2500** where it died in Committee. **SB 370**, also referred to as the Anti-Jobs Act, would have made payroll documents secret. This bill died in the House Judiciary Committee on a tie vote. This was important to us because we often check payrolls for organizing purposes.

I want to thank the WV AFL-CIO, West Virginia State Building Trades, ACT Foundation and their staffs for their hard work in representing and defending our IBEW members in Charleston, WV this past legislative session.
