INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

IBEW LOCAL UNION 124 & 271

Written Testimony of IBEW 124 & IBEW 271
Russell Kennedy, Business Manager, IBEW 271
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For the Senate Committee on Utilities

Support for HB 2527

Chairman Fagg and the members of the Committee:

IBEW (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers) is pleased to support House Bill 2527's proposal to build a natural gas power plant in Kansas. As an organization that supports thousands of workers in the electrical/construction industry, it is imperative that such projects in Kansas come to fruition.

For the first time in a long time, Kansas is being seen as a place of growth and opportunity for businesses to bring their firms, manufacturing plants, bioscience labs, and families to live here. All of this requires electrical power and enough of it. Due to this growth, our members have been able to work steadily, provide for their families and inject their wages back into the local economy. Economic development keeps the ball rolling and economic development means more power. Without enough power generation, large-scale projects will move on to other states and our members will lose out on an opportunity to provide for their family.

This is a jobs bill. Not only will it provide jobs through the construction of a power plant, but the projects that land in Kansas will only further perpetuate growth in our economy and strengthen the middle-class in Kansas.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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