

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Local Union No. 23

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Affiliated with the
Minnesota AFL-CIO Federation of Labor
St. Paul AFL-CIO Trades & Labor Assembly
I.B.E.W. State Council

August 5, 2019

Dear Brother/Sister:

I'm writing to notify you of the Department of Labor's Industry Recognized Apprenticeship Program (IRAP) proposed regulation. This proposal establishes a system in which a non-union contractor could recognize its own "apprenticeship program" that would not be subject to many of the same requirements that our DOL recognized apprenticeships are. At this time, the construction industry is temporarily exempted from the proposal. However, I am very concerned that this exemption will not be part of the final regulation.

A website has been set up for all rank and file members, their families, and friends to easily submit individualized comments to the DOL. **Comments are due by midnight on August 26, 2019.** Please go to www.saveIBEWapprenticeships.org where you will be asked several required background questions and then have the ability to self-select prewritten paragraphs to form a comment letter to the DOL. It is possible to edit these prewritten paragraphs by choosing "edit message" from the list of available options. I encourage you to edit your comments if you feel comfortable doing so.

While this proposed regulation impacts all members of the construction branch, it indirectly impacts all members, their families, and friends. The IBEW prides itself on its electrical training ALLIANCE training programs, these programs have graduated hundreds of thousands of journeyman wiremen and journeyman linemen. These individuals are members, each day they perform their job duties safely and efficiently. They are in part responsible for ensuring our country's critical infrastructure and emergency response systems are powered, their training allows them to do so and impacts all of us.

In solidarity,
Local Union No. 23, IBEW

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Duane A. Peters".

Duane A. Peters
Business Manager

DAP:nj-opeiu 12

SAVE OUR APPRENTICESHIPS:

MAKE THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY EXEMPTION PERMANENT

1 log on

Visit
www.savelBEWapprenticeships.org

2 click your branch

Select the page most appropriate for you by clicking one of the following red boxes at the bottom of the page: Construction Branch - Inside, Construction Branch - Outside, or All Members, Friends, and Family.

3 complete the form

Scroll down until you see fields for your contact information on the left side of the page if you are on a computer or in the center of the page if you are on a cellular phone. Please complete as many of these fields as you can. The more fields you complete the more individualized your comment letter will be.

4 preview/edit

Preview or edit your comment letter by clicking the red "preview" or "edit" buttons located at the bottom of the form. If you choose to edit your comment, please remember to be respectful and limit your comments to the proposed regulation.

5 send and share

once you have reviewed your comment and made any changes you wish, please then hit submit. Your comment will be sent directly to the DOL. You will receive an emailed confirmation when the DOL processes your comment. After you have submitted your comment please share www.savelBEWapprenticeships.org with your family and friends.