



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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February 14, 2012

Honorable Steven Brunk
House Committee on Federal and State Affairs
Kansas Legislature House
Topeka, KS

Re: **HB 2577** – Concerning the Use of E-Verify for Business and Governmental Entities

Dear Mr. Chairman,

“International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 226 supports **HB 2577**”

On behalf of the nearly 450 members of IBEW Local Union 226, I write in support of HB 2577, a bill to expand on the use of E-Verify.

Originally authorized by the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1324a note), E-Verify provides employers with an inexpensive, quick, and accurate way to verify employee eligibility. To use the voluntary E-Verify system, an employer submits an employee's I-9 form to the Social Security Administration and Department of Homeland Security to determine if the information “matches-up” with existing records. If information such as Name, Date of Birth, and Social Security number does not match, legitimate workers are able to correct the disparity while illegal workers cannot. Consistent with immigration law, business may not offer opportunities to those unable to document their eligibility for employment in the United States.

E-Verify is a federally-authorized program to provide employment eligibility conformation. In the absence of comprehensive immigration reform, it is one of the few tools available to address the problem of undocumented workers. I urge support for HB 2577, a bill to authorize the use of E-Verify.

Sincerely,

Brian Threadgold
IBEW Local 226

House Fed & State Affairs
Date: 2-16-12

Attachment 17

Lighting the way in Kansas

