



**INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD
OF ELECTRICAL
WORKERS®**

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EDWIN D. HILL
International President

SAM J. CHILIA
International
Secretary-Treasurer

January 23, 2012

Dear Senator or Representative:

On behalf of the approximately 725,000 members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), I write in support of H.R. 3553, the Invest in American Jobs Act of 2011. Two of the most important IBEW goals are job retention and creation. The Invest in American Jobs Act of 2011 furthers both of these goals by strengthening existing "Buy American" provisions related to steel, iron, and manufactured goods used on federally funded projects.

Utilizing steel, iron, and manufactured goods made in the United States for infrastructure projects like upgrading bridges, railways, and waterlines, provides job security to those in the manufacturing sector. Infrastructure spending is a proven way of creating jobs. Studies as recent as 2009 showed that for every \$1 billion spent on infrastructure, 18,000 jobs are created. At the height of the recession, unemployment in the manufacturing industry was 13%. Today, the manufacturing industry unemployment rate is nearly 8%. H.R. 3553 has the potential to help one of the industries hit hardest by the recession recover from this extremely difficult time.

The IBEW urges you to support H.R. 3553, the Invest in American Jobs Act of 2011, legislation that would create and retain jobs here in America.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edwin D. Hill". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "E".

Edwin D. Hill
International President

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