



District Council of Iron Workers of the State of California and Vicinity
3281 E. Guasti Rd., Suite 625, Ontario, CA 91761
Telephone (510) 724-9277

April 26, 2023

Re: Opposition to HJ Res 39

Dear U.S. Representative,

On behalf of all Iron Workers within the District Council of Iron Workers of the State of California and Vicinity, I write to urge you to oppose the resolution on solar panels that have been introduced in the House (HJ Res 39). Enactment of this resolution would eliminate Iron Worker jobs in CA, NV, AZ, and HI that build our renewable energy projects, and jobs nationwide that manufacture the components that go into those plants. This resolution will raise costs and create and would set back our renewable energy goals throughout California and the rest of the nation.

In 2022, a single company filed petitions with the Department of Commerce (Commerce) alleging that solar panels imported from Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, and Malaysia were circumventing antidumping and countervailing (AD/CVD) duties. When Commerce decided to initiate the case, the business uncertainty of possible retroactive duties caused solar deployment to drop by 20% from 2021 levels. That meant 20% fewer construction and manufacturing jobs in the solar sector.

Thankfully, President Biden issued Emergency Proclamation 10414 on Grid Reliability that provided a 2-year pause on duties arising from the case in order to resume construction of this much needed electricity capacity. Repealing the President's proclamation would result in retroactive duties that would again disrupt 4 GW of power generation and cause 30,000 construction and 4,000 manufacturing job losses. Our District Council that is leading in the deployment of competitive, carbon-free power generation would be hard hit, and the growth of our renewable energy sector would suffer and stumble. It's clear that the Biden Administration's compromise to deliver on renewable energy today, while building the American renewable manufacturing market for tomorrow, is a winning strategy. Now is not the time to step back and reverse all the work we have done as a nation to bring green energy to the American people.

Such job destruction is counterproductive and unnecessary. The IRA created a path to domestic manufacturing of the panels, battery storage, and other components used in solar plants. This is working; U.S. manufacturing is rapidly expanding. The President's Proclamation has created a smooth trajectory of jobs to continue the construction of advanced-stage projects as the number of manufacturing jobs under the IRA ramps up.

House Joint Resolution 39 would eliminate union jobs at the very time we are successfully expanding union employment in the clean-energy space. For the sake of our Iron Workers, and the communities we belong to, we strongly urge you to oppose.

Sincerely,

David S. Osborne
President

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President

David Osborne

District Representative

Erik Schmidli

Field Representative

Jonathan Paramo

Executive Council

Local Union 75

Jason Sangster

Local Union 118

Karl Pineo

Local Union 155

Jesus Castaneda

Local Union 229

Beau Coleman

Local Union 377

Charles Hernandez

Local Union 378

Jason Gallia

Local Union 416

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Local Union 433

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