



**INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD
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WORKERS®**

900 Seventh Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202.833.7000
www.ibew.org

KENNETH W. COOPER
International President

PAUL A. NOBLE
International
Secretary-Treasurer

April 26, 2023

VIA EMAIL

To: All Members of the United States House of Representatives

Re: House Joint Resolution 39

Dear U.S. Representative:

On behalf of the 775,000 active members and retirees of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), I write to share the IBEW's opposition to H.J.Res.39, the joint resolution of disapproval regarding President Biden's two-year suspension of certain tariffs on solar imports that is expected to soon come before the committee for consideration.

The IBEW represents tens of thousands of workers who make their living installing and maintaining solar generation. This includes large, utility-scale solar developments that are currently providing significant amounts of emission-free power to schools, hospitals, and homes in the United States. The IBEW also represents over 30,000 workers in the manufacturing sector, making the supply chains that move the economy. IBEW members have been intimately involved in the development and deployment of solar power in the United States since its infancy.

H.J.Res.39 would nullify Proclamation 10414, a carefully crafted compromise to give the Department of Commerce authority to provide a two-year pause, from June 6, 2022, to June 6, 2024, on potential anti-circumvention duties on solar panels being imported from Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia. The Biden Administration made this compromise in order to provide market certainty to allow U.S. companies to continue deploying solar panels while providing a bridge to strengthening the domestic U.S. solar polysilicon photovoltaic supply chain.

For far too long, China has participated in unfair trade practices and human rights violations that deeply undercut the U.S. solar manufacturing industry. The U.S. Congress responded by writing key provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act, including the 45X Advanced Manufacturing Production Credit and 48C Advanced Manufacturing Tax Credit, which are providing the necessary market signals to solar manufacturers to invest in America. These provisions, along with the two-year bridge created under Proclamation 10414, are making a real difference today and will create tens of thousands of union jobs and help spur the kind of domestic production of PV solar wafers, cells, and panels needed to lessen America's reliance on supply chains from abroad.



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Yet even the most significant investments cannot recreate an industry overnight. With one year left in the Biden administration's two-year pause on certain solar tariffs, the IBEW has already seen the Inflation Reduction Act's benefits, including more than 45 gigawatts in announced solar manufacturing capacity since the law's passage. H.J.Res.39 is a backward-looking resolution looking to reopen a settled matter rather than create solutions. The IBEW has and will continue to support congressional action that will lower energy costs, strengthen the power grid, and create good-paying union jobs. Moreover, at this time, IBEW does not support an extension of the two-year pause on imposing anti-circumvention duties on Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, and Cambodia.

On behalf of the IBEW, I urge you to oppose H.J.Res.39 when it is considered before the House. Please contact Government Affairs Department Director Danielle Eckert at (202) 728-6046 or by email to danielle_eckert@ibew.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth W. Cooper", is positioned above the typed name.

Kenneth W. Cooper
International President

KWC:efw

