

IBEW LOCAL 292 LEGISLATIVE REPORT 2023 MINNESOTA LEGISLATIVE SESSION



June 1, 2023

The following has passed this year. Various omnibus bills contain these initiatives, bill numbers listed below.
Highlighted in Green are bills that we actively worked on and/or helped author.

Energy HF 2310

General Fund carries PW requirements.

- \$15 M for Solar on Schools
- \$28 M for weatherization and pre-weatherization programs
- \$3 M for "MN Energy Alley"
- \$5 M for EV purchase rebate program
- \$6 M for E-school buses
- \$5.3 M for electric grid resiliency
- \$6 M for Heat Pump purchase rebates
- \$1 M for air ventilation program
- \$3 M for onsite energy storage systems

Combine the above general fund spending with the below RDA spending.

Renewable Development Fund (RDA) now carries PW requirements.

- \$3 M microgrid research and application
- \$2 M granite falls Hydro-electric facility.
- \$10.7 M for EV purchase rebate program
- \$7 M for E-School buses
- \$5 M for Solar on public buildings
- \$3.5 M for Electric Panel Upgrades PW and Electrical licensing requirements
- \$4 M for Energy Storage incentives
- \$10.25 M for Distributed Energy Resources System Upgrades (to accommodate more solar)
- \$7 M for Heat Pump Purchas rebates
- \$14.3 M for Solar on Schools

Policy:

State Vehicle fleet purchase priority program
EV, HEV, Clean fuel burning, Gas or Diesel.

PW on RDA spending for construction projects.

- Solar energy production incentive program(residential and rooftop financial incentives) \$17.5 M.
- Air ventilation pilot program; schools and public buildings (sheet metal and HVAC workers) PW requirements.
- Electric Vehicle deployment program; includes transportation electrification elements.
- Community Solar Garden Program reform and phase out 1MW to 5MW. PW requirements.
- Distributive energy(solar wind) program phase in. Up to 10MW. PW requirements.
- Integrated distribution plan upgrades program, requirements, reporting.
- Pre-weatherization and weatherization program established.
- Energy benchmarking for buildings in metro area.
- Electric School Bus Deployment program established.

Solar on Schools program modifications. Prevailing wage requirements.

Solar on Public Buildings program established, Prevailing wage requirements.

Distributive energy interconnection program established.

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Energy Storage Incentive Program established.

Electric Vehicle rebates program established. \$2,500 new, \$600 lease or used.

Residential electric panel upgrade grant program established.

Prevailing wage and MN Electrical act provisions within.

Residential heat pump program established.

Limits by HOA's on certain solar systems prohibited.

Decommissioning and Demolition plan for coal-fired plants established.

Electric grid resilience grants program established.

Consumer owned utilities; muni's coops, power districts.

Labor SF3035

Policy:

PW on general funds all or in part used on construction projects. There were loopholes in general fund spending when money was given through DEED and other administration departments to organizations, without specific project spending.

Electric Vehicle capable space. Codes shall be adopted to provide that Multi-family(under 4 units exempt) and commercial buildings be equip with at least the infrastructure to provide for electric vehicle charging.

Accelerated energy code adoption. MNDOLI Commissioner shall adopt commercial energy codes from 2024 to 2036 that incrementally move towards achieving 80% reduction in net energy consumption using ASHRAE 90. 1-2004 as a base. *This is the result of our fight to keep this consistent throughout the state with our allowing Cities to adopt their own patchwork of energy codes.*

Solar installers must register as residential contractors. Enables swindled homeowners to tap into the builder's recovery fund when they get ripped off.

Agriculture and food processing workers' rights established.

Nursing home workforce standards established.

Meat and Poultry processing workers' rights established.

Covenants not to compete in employment agreements prohibited.

Indemnification agreements.

Prohibits general contractors from obligating subcontractors to carry unnecessary liability.

Public employment relations board established.

Warehouse workers safety act established.

Construction worker wage protection act established.

A general contractor can be held liable for a subcontractor who knowingly engages in wage theft or other worker protections violations.

Access by labor organizations. Personal data must be disseminated to labor organizations to conduct elections and investigate grievances.

Definition of scope in regard to prevailing wage to cover demolition with erection, construction, remodeling or repairing. And in addition; when the acquisition of the property, predesign, design or demolition is financed in whole or in part by state funds.

Captive audience meetings conducted by employers prohibited.

Restrictive Franchise agreements prohibited.

Exception to Elevator license; Conveyors(not vertical), platform lifts(not for people), Dock Levelers.

Technology system contractor, the responsible licensed individual can also be a Master Electrician.

State Board of Electricity composition: PLT; employer type and now employee type position.

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Load control devices (saver switches) exempt from inspection.

Muni's, COOPS, REA's. Doesn't include Xcel or MN Power.

Work still must be performed by a licensed electrician.

Only repair and replacement of existing equipment.

Sunsets of December 31, 2028.

Earned Safe and Sick time.

Full, temporary, part-time employees employed for 80 hours or more per year.

Excludes:

Independent contractors

Flight cabin or crew staff

Employee with paid leave equal to or better

US Government Employee

Those covered by a CBA in the building and construction trades.

1 hour earned per every 30 hours worked up to a max of 48 hours earned in a year.

Covers pay and benefits.

Funding:

MNDOLI:

\$4.25 M for wage theft prevention WFD

\$3.1 M for prevailing wage enforcement WFD

Workforce Development Initiatives:

\$3 M for youth skills training.

\$9 M for Apprenticeship

\$3m for clean economy workforce grants; training, equipment, and materials

\$500 K for Building Strong Communities H2H initiatives.

Deed Grants:

\$650 K for the MN Film and TV Board

\$2.5 M Vehicle manufacturing specializing in Electric Vehicle Sensor Technology

Employment and training programs:

\$400 K for Building Strong Communities

\$150 K to hire more staff for Prevailing wage education and enforcement.

General support services:

Extends the \$2.5 M for Northgate expenditure to June 30, 2024.

Transportation HF 2887

Funding:

\$36 M match for Federal funding for Airport infrastructure

\$15 M for Airport critical systems and Safety

\$40 M match for federal funding for transit and transportation projects

\$194.7 M for the Minneapolis – Duluth Train, part of a federal match

\$5 M for expanded passenger rails service between Minneapolis and Chicago.

\$3 B state road construction

\$300 K to reduce speed in work zones.

\$80.8 M for MNDOT Building construction projects.

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\$118 M for Transit System operations

Including \$50 M for the Hennepin County Blue Line

\$2M for Transit Service Intervention, crime on buses and trains

EARMARKS galore

\$15.25 M for the Wolgy (St. Cloud) earmark fund; Hwy 10, Veterans Bridge, Univ Drive.

Transportation Bonding:

\$200 M State Road Construction

\$87 M MNDOT buildings construction projects

\$68.8 M for TH 65, Anoka County

\$30 M for HWY 10 Coon Rapids

\$4.2 M for US HWY 169 Scott County

Taxes/Revenue:

Increased filling fees

Retail delivery fees

Applicable over \$100

\$.50 cents for each transaction

ID and Driver's License fee increase

Slight increase in gas tax

Metropolitan sales tax $\frac{3}{4}$ of 1%

Prohibited from being used for the SWLRT

Excise tax increase

Policy:

Increased railroad safety program and response program established.

Adds "Postal Vehicle" to the MN Move Over law, also turns shall into must. Adds Move Over laws for stalled or disabled vehicle.

Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program construction:

Prevailing wage requirements.

EVITP certification required.

Passenger rail account, transfers, appropriations established. For intercity rail service.

Rail Road minimum crew size: 2 individuals.

Extended right of way to electric transmission lines.

Electric-assist bicycle rebate program, \$1500, income restrictions apply

Increased rail road safety and response program

MNDOT involvement with Met Council on transit projects.

Transit Code of Conduct established.

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Bonding/Capitol Improvement HF669 HF 670



Nearly \$2.6 Billion in spending on Capitol improvement spending

HF 670 \$1.075B in Cash

HF 669 \$1.5B in Bonding

Highlights in our jurisdiction

\$317 M for Higher Education Asset Preservation and Replacement. MN Colleges and University projects.

\$1.15 M Brooklyn Park Fire Station and EM OPS Center

\$1.3 M Edina community health and public safety building

\$3.2 M Golden Valley remote fire station

\$1.7 M Minneapolis EM OPS Center

\$3.5 M Coon Rapids pedestrian bridge

\$4 M Fridley Northtown Rail yard overpass

\$3.5 M Hennepin Ave Bridge

\$3.7 M Hutchinson civil air patrol training center

\$3.9 M St. Cloud regional airport

\$18.4 M Shakopee W Prison, space addition and interior renovations.

\$3 M Belle Plaine public infrastructure

\$2.3 M Bloomington ice garden

\$1.8 M Bloomington public health facility

\$.350 M Bloomington Vet Memorial

\$5.1 M Brooklyn Center health, culture and rec facility

\$5 M Brooklyn Park community activity center

\$5.4 M Chaska city square west

\$2.3 M Crystal aquatic center

\$1 M Litchfield wellness center

\$2 M Litchfield building facades

\$6 M Maple Grove community center

\$9.9 M Minneapolis central city tunnel

\$12 M Richfield wood lake nature center

\$.6 M Savage sports center

\$2.5 M Waite Park quarry redevelopment

\$1.6 M Cologne wastewater facility

\$10 M Corcoran wastewater facility

\$1.7 M Dayton well water facility

\$3.5 M Medicine lake infrastructure

\$4.5 M Minneapolis water distribution facility

\$11 M Monticello water treatment facility

\$10.3 M Mound clean water improvements

\$1.6 M Osseo lift station

\$3.5 South Haven drinking water improvements

\$3 M Watertown water tower

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Grants to non-profits, keep an eye on these. Must pay Prevailing wage on these construction projects.

Grants

African Career and Education Resource in Brooklyn Center	GF
Agate Housing - Shelter Facility in Minneapolis	GF
Anoka Area Ice Arena Association	GF
Appetite for Change - Building in Minneapolis	GF
ArtSpace - Northrup King Renovation in Minneapolis	GF
Avenues for Youth - Emergency Shelter Expansion In Minneapolis	GF
CAPI - Immigrant Opportunity Center Expansion in Brooklyn Center	GF
CentraCare Health System Campus Design in St. Cloud	GF
Comunidades Latinas Unidas en Servicio - Latino Outreach Facility in Minneapolis	GF
CornerHouse - New Facility in Hennepin County	GF
Cultural Wellness Center - Dreamland on 38th in Minneapolis	GF
Division of Indian Work - Expansion of Existing Facility in Minneapolis	GF
East Side Neighborhood Services in Minneapolis	GF
Firefighters for Healing - New Facility in Minneapolis	GF
Great River Children's Museum - Renovations in St. Cloud	GF
Hope 4 Youth - Youth Homeless Center in Anoka	GF
Indian Health Board - Medical Facility in Minneapolis	GF
Indigenous Peoples Taskforce - Mikwanedun Audisookon Center Minneapolis	GF
Isuroon - Renovation in Minneapolis	GF
Little Earth Neighborhood Early Learning Center - Upgrades in Minneapolis	GF
Little Earth Residents Association - Innovation Hub in Minneapolis	GF
MNI Sota Fund - Facility in Minneapolis	GF
Native American Community Clinic - Expansion in Minneapolis	GF
New Native Theater - Theater Space in Minneapolis	GF
Northside Economic Opportunity Network - Food Business Incubator in Minneapolis	GF
Norway House - Conference and Event Center in Minneapolis	GF
Pangea World Theater - Community Arts Center in Minneapolis	GF
Parents in Community Action - Existing Facility in Minneapolis	GF
Phyllis Wheatley Community Center - Camp Katherine Parsons in Carver County	GF
Public Functionary - Community and Arts Center in Minneapolis	GF
Simpson Housing Services - Shelter Facility in Minneapolis	GF
Somali Museum - Facility in Minneapolis	GF

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Southern Anoka Community Assistance - Food Bank in Columbia Heights	GF
Tending the Soil MN - Rise Up Center in Minneapolis	GF
The Link - Multiuse Facility in North Minneapolis	GF
True Friends - Camp Courage in Wright County	GF
Turning Point - Facility in Minneapolis	GF
Ukrainian Center - Capital Improvements in Minneapolis	GF
V3 Sports Inc - Event Center in Minneapolis	GF
We Win Institute Inc. - Capital Improvements in Minneapolis	GF

Other Bills of interest to labor and building stuff

State spending matches federal money for IJJA and IRA spending and investments. All include PW requirements.

Refinery safety and apprenticeship training requirements bill (IBEW SC, IBEW110 and other affiliates).

Conformity with Federal OSHA, increased fines and penalties for violating MN OSHA laws and regulations.

100% Carbon free energy production by 2040 includes prevailing wage considerations and local hiring for construction projects.

Cannabis use legalized HF 100.

Paid family leave HF 2.

Effective: Different parts... November 1, 2025, January 2026, July 1, 2026

Benefits are paid from a state fund, much like unemployment benefits

12 weeks of benefit

Calculated beginning with the States calculated average wage with a percentage applied

Benefits must be continued to be paid on behave of employees while on leave:

With the exception for CBA's in the construction industry for those who contribute to a multi-employer/ERISA plan and that waiver of exception is clearly stated within the CBA (sec 18 subd 5(b)).

No break in service for the purpose of calculating pension benefits.

Employee shall be reinstated to original employment.

With the exception of those working under a CBA in the construction industry working under the provisions of a referral system for multiple employers and that waiver of exception is clearly stated within the CBA (sec 18 subd 6(i)).

Employers private plan providing the same benefit may be substituted

And oversite fee would have to be paid by employers using a private plan.

An employer would be eligible for re-imburement from the state plan.

Self-employed and independent contractors may opt in.

Wage and benefit reporting requirements.

"small employers" exempt from certain reporting.

Benefits received under this plan are subject to income tax withholding.