



**C & K ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.**

Established 1923

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Representative Arthur J. Corvese  
Chairman, House Labor Committee  
RI State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

VIA Email: [HouseLabor@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseLabor@rilegislature.gov)

RE: Support H-7972 – AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -  
- STATE PURCHASES

Dear Chairman Corvese,

My name is Rob Kelman, and I am writing on behalf of C & K Electric Company, Inc., an IBEW Local 99 signatory electrical contractor based in Rhode Island.

Our company has been operating in Rhode Island for many years, employing skilled union electricians and performing work on a wide range of public and private projects, including critical state facilities.

I am writing in support of H-7972.

Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) have consistently proven to be an effective tool in ensuring that complex public projects are completed efficiently, safely, and on schedule. From a contractor's perspective, PLAs provide stability, clear labor expectations, and help avoid disruptions that can delay completion and increase costs.

In Rhode Island, more than 50 feasibility studies over the past two decades have evaluated the use of PLAs on public projects. Each of these independent studies has supported the use of a PLA. At this point, the value of PLAs is well established and supported by real project outcomes.



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One of the most common concerns raised regarding PLAs is the time and cost associated with conducting feasibility studies. This bill appropriately addresses that concern by removing unnecessary administrative burdens while still preserving local control. Municipalities and the State will retain the ability to decide whether to implement a PLA, but without the added cost and delay of duplicative studies that have consistently reached the same conclusion.

Importantly, this legislation does not mandate PLAs. It simply streamlines the process for projects of significant scale and allows decision-makers to act more efficiently while still being accountable for their choices.

From my experience working on public projects across Rhode Island, anything that improves project delivery, reduces delays, and provides labor stability is a benefit to the State, the municipalities, and the taxpayers.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to support passage of H-7972.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Robert Kelman'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned over a light blue rectangular background.

C & K Electric Company, Inc.  
Robert Kelman