



Department of Commerce

Division of Industrial Compliance

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Ohio Sunset Review Committee Testimony on the Electrical Safety Inspector Advisory Committee Regina Hanshaw, Board Secretary for the Board of Building Standards April 26, 2016

Chairman Jordan and members of the Sunset Review Committee, I am Regina Hanshaw, Board Secretary for the Board of Building Standards. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Electrical Safety Inspector Advisory Committee.

The Electrical Safety Inspector Advisory Committee is an advisory committee of the Ohio Board of Building Standards (“Board”). The Board is responsible for adopting the Ohio Building Code and the Residential Code of Ohio. The Board also certifies and has oversight over municipal, county, and township building departments, and also certifies the personnel employed by these departments who are responsible for enforcing the state building codes.

Traditionally, the Committee advises the Board on approval or denial of electrical safety inspector certification applications and continuing education programs. Also, the Committee provides expertise to the Board and Board staff in the National Electric Code on technical questions. Annually, the Committee reviews content and makes recommendations to the Board on approximately sixty continuing education courses which are administered state-wide to certified electrical safety inspectors. Additionally, the Committee reviews approximately forty electrical safety inspector applications each year. Currently, there are approximately five hundred fifty two electrical safety inspectors in Ohio.

The Committee is appointed by the Board and consists of five members: an electrical contractor, a registered electrical engineer, an electrical safety inspector employed by the Department of Commerce, and two electrical safety inspectors employed by certified municipal or county building departments. The members of the Committee receive no salary

but receive their actual and necessary expenses, which are paid out of the Board's budget. During the past year, the Board paid a total of approximately \$500 for these expenses.

As an advisory committee, the Committee does not have a dedicated staff or budget. One Board staff member supports the Committee, preparing for Committee meetings which meet roughly each month, and providing the Committee with copies of electrical safety inspector certification and continuing education applications for review. Approximately 100 staff hours each year are dedicated to assisting the Committee.

In summary, the Electrical Safety Inspector Advisory Committee lends the Board of Building Standards the expertise necessary to properly evaluate electrical safety inspector certification applications and continuing education programs for building department personnel responsible for inspecting electrical work. For this reason, we respectfully request reauthorization of the Electrical Safety Inspector Advisory Committee.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee for allowing me to testify today. I am happy to entertain any questions you may have at this time.