



International Union of Operating Engineers

* * * Local 139 * * *

Providing A Skilled Workforce For Wisconsin's Future
N27 W23233 Roundy Drive • P.O. Box 130 • Pewaukee, WI 53072
Phone: (262) 896-0139 • Fax (262) 896-0758
www.iuoe139.org

Terrance E. McGowan

President/Business Manager
General Vice President

*For more information, contact
Local 139 President/Business Manager
Terrance E. McGowan: 262-896-0139*

Wisconsin Operating Engineers Support Governor Evers Veto of SB 125 December 7, 2021

(WAUKESHA, Wis.) – International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 139 applauds Governor Evers for vetoing SB 125, an ill-conceived apprenticeship tax credit bill.

The most effective construction trade apprenticeship programs in Wisconsin are those that are privately financed by the trades and their employer contractors. The Wisconsin Operating Engineers invest nearly \$10 million a year so that its apprentices and journey workers have access to world-class training. Trade union apprenticeship programs like Wisconsin Operating Engineers educate 95% of Wisconsin's construction apprentices at virtually no cost to the apprentices or Wisconsin taxpayers.

“SB 125 would have helped those construction apprenticeship programs that invest the least in the education of their apprentices,” said Terrance McGowan, President and Business Manager of Local 139. “Taxpayer dollars should not reward programs that have the least skin in the game. We can, and should, grow apprenticeship programs in Wisconsin, but SB 125 helped too few programs and apprentices to be effective.”

SB 125 would not have helped privately funded apprenticeship programs grow. Instead, it gave a government subsidy only to apprentices that participate in programs that require their apprentices to bear the brunt of the cost of their apprenticeship.

#

Established in 1902, Operating Engineers Local 139 is a statewide trade union that primarily represents skilled Operators of heavy construction equipment and mechanics who service the machines. The union has more than 9,500 active and retired members and is headquartered in Pewaukee. Local 139 also maintains district offices in Madison, Appleton and Altoona, as well as a state-certified training school for Operating Engineers in Coloma.

BRANCH OFFICES

Appleton

5191 Abitz Road
Appleton, WI 54914
(920) 739-6378

Eau Claire

1003 S. Hillcrest Parkway
Altoona, WI 54720
(715) 838-0139

Madison

4702 S. Biltmore Lane
Madison, WI 53718
(608) 243-0139