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Building and Construction Trades Department

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June 15, 2011

The Honorable Tim Murphy
322 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Murphy:

On behalf of the approximately 2 million skilled craft professionals who comprise America's Building Trades Unions, I would like to extend a sincere thank you for your steadfast support for community standards within the U.S. construction industry with your vote in support of the LaTourette amendment and your vote against the Amash amendment that were offered during the recent consideration of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2012 (H.R. 2055). The LaTourette amendment removed a misguided mandate that would have denied funds for the option to utilize project labor agreements, and the Amash Amendment would have repealed Davis-Bacon Act prevailing wage coverage for federally-funded construction projects.

It is my hope that the opponents of common sense public policy will reach the unmistakable conclusion that these vote totals reflect incontrovertible evidence that the U.S. Congress must finally decide to put politically-motivated attacks aside, and instead choose to respond to the demands of American workers and taxpayers to create jobs and rectify our dismal economic situation. Put simply, partisan politics has never paid a mortgage or put food on anyone's table and this is the third time in just a few short months that the House of Representatives has spoken on these issues.

America's Building Trades Unions will continue to work with and support legislators regardless of political party affiliation who support common sense solutions and defend proven industry practices that promote training and efficiency. Because of your support, we have broad congressional support for the idea that fiscally-conservative policies should not use budget gimmicks and chase illusory savings by upending successful practices in the construction industry that promote training and efficiency.

I look forward to both working with the 112th Congress to put politics aside and create jobs, as well as continuing a productive working relationship with you and your staff.

With kind personal regards, I am,

Sincerely,

Mark H. Ayers
President

cc: Pennsylvania State and Pittsburgh Building and Construction Trades Councils

