



July 19, 2022

U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear U.S. Representatives:

On behalf of Associated Builders and Contractors, a national trade association with 68 chapters representing more than 21,000 members, I am writing to express our support for En Bloc Amendment #4 to the Transportation HUD and Military Construction-Veterans Affairs appropriations in H.R. 8294. ABC urges a yes vote on this En Bloc Amendment **and will be considering it a “KEY VOTE” for our scorecard on the 117th Congress.**

ABC remains concerned over unnecessary and restrictive labor policies that could dilute the effectiveness of the legislation and limit opportunities for much of the construction industry to participate in programs and projects authorized under this new funding.

While some in Congress seek to expand Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements, it has been shown that the Davis-Bacon Act, as currently administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, unnecessarily hinders economic growth and stifles contractor productivity by mandating wage rates on federal construction projects that fail to reflect true, market-based rates. The main culprit for these frequent discrepancies is the flawed, unscientific wage survey process that the DOL uses to calculate these so-called “prevailing” wages. The Government Accountability Office has found widespread errors in the Davis-Bacon wage determination process and noted that it suffers from a serious lack of transparency.

Even more troubling is that the DOL is simply unwilling to address these problems on its own and has recently issued a proposed Davis-Bacon rule that could result in grossly inflated wage rates and exacerbate the current inflation crisis facing the economy. **ABC must urge a YES VOTE on En Bloc #4 to H.R. 8294 and will consider this a “KEY VOTE” for our scorecard on the 117th Congress.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristen Swearingen".

Kristen Swearingen  
Vice President of Legislative & Political Affairs