



**INTERNATIONAL
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LONNIE R. STEPHENSON
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July 26, 2017

To: All Members of the US House of Representatives

Dear Representatives:

On behalf of the approximately 750,000 active members and retirees of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), I write to you in urgent opposition to three amendments to H.R. 3219, "Make America Secure Appropriations Act, 2018" which seek to undo Davis-Bacon wage protections and additionally aim to cripple Project Labor Agreements (PLAs).

Amendment 40 (Congressman Steve King) and Amendment 45 (Congressmen Francis Rooney and Ted Budd) are direct attacks against the Davis-Bacon Act, which ensures that IBEW members and other skilled construction workers can earn a decent living applying their crafts in their communities. Amendment 46 (Congressman Francis Rooney) targets PLAs on federal construction projects by eliminating funding and enforcement of Executive Order 13502.

PLAs are the product of negotiations between all interested parties in a construction project. It is a simple and reliable contract tool that has been used for decades to prevent expensive delays and reduce workplace injuries, saving taxpayers and investors billions of dollars while helping projects be completed safely, on time and under budget. The federal government should be encouraging these positive examples of labor-management cooperation, rather than discouraging them.

I strongly urge you to vote against these amendments that will harm working families in your district and across the country.

Sincerely yours,

Lonnie R. Stephenson
International President

LRS:mlm