

April 9, 2021

Dear Representative _____:

I am a member of the National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA), which represents construction contractors, manufacturers, and distributors who build and maintain a wide range of underground facilities and transportation infrastructure. NUCA member companies provide the manpower and equipment needed to build, repair, and maintain the infrastructure needed for water and wastewater infrastructure, gas distribution, broadband, electric and as well as the nation's surface transportation system. Since the nation first responded to the Covid-19 pandemic, NUCA members like me have been working tirelessly to keep Americans connected to reliable clean water, sewer, broadband, and other critical utility services when they were needed most.

I strongly encourage you to sign-on to Rep. Tedd Budd's infrastructure priorities letter to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, which addresses the importance of free and fair competition in government contracts. The committee is currently seeking feedback on their policy priorities for upcoming work on surface transportation reauthorization.

In February, Rep. Budd introduced the Fair and Open Competition Act (H.R. 1284). FOCA protects government construction contracts from project labor agreement mandates and will allow all contractors, including small, women, and minority-owned businesses, to have a fair opportunity at competing to rebuild America. More than 87% of the private construction workforce chooses not to belong to a union, and workforce capacity issues are already among the greatest difficulties our industry faces today. PLA mandates prevent experienced contractors from competing to win taxpayer-funded contracts and potentially locks out vast swathes of the workforce. Considering the skilled workforce shortage facing the industry, any major infrastructure package cannot possibly be completed on schedule and under budget if a harmful PLA mandate is put into place.

Rep. Budd's letter is critically important urges the committee to ensure that any infrastructure proposal is free of PLA mandates. I strongly encourage you to sign to help ensure that any potential infrastructure package is not undermined from its inception. Additionally, I urge you to join Rep. Budd as a cosponsor of FOCA this congress.

Please contact Charlie Hobbs at Charlie.Hobbs2@mail.house.gov to join the letter and to cosponsor FOCA.

Please see the below links for the text of Rep. Budd's letter, as well as supporting documents from our pro-FOCA coalition. Thank you for your consideration.

[Rep. Budd Letter](#)

[FOCA Fact Sheet](#)

[FOCA Coalition Letter](#)

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,
Member of the National Utility Contractors Association