

March 9, 2021

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The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker of the House United States House of Representatives H-232, U.S. Capitol Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Minority Leader United States House of Representatives H-204, U.S. Capitol Washington, DC 2051

Dear Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McCarthy:

The National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA) represents represent construction contractors, manufacturers, and distributors who build and maintain a wide range of underground facilities and transportation infrastructure. Since its establishment in 1964, NUCA's member companies have provided 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.

Last year, NUCA and more than 100 industry associations opposed the *Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act*, which would have implemented a range of over-reaching policies, including:

- Eliminating of "right-to-work" laws across the country,
- Forcing union representation without an appropriate secret ballot election, and
- Undermining options for employers to determine independent contractor status.

Over the past 20 years, most of these concepts have either died during the legislative process or were struck down in the courts. The re-introduction of the PRO Act (HR 842) has deeply concerned NUCA, and the organization wants to be clear about our opposition to this harmful legislation and the negative impacts it would have on utility infrastructure if its provisions were enacted.

NUCA appreciates the opportunity to provide the 117th Congress our perspective from the businesses at the forefront of our nation's utility construction projects. Consistent with the President's "Build Back Better" initiative, NUCA members stand ready to do their part in rebuilding a wide range of essential American infrastructure. However, policies such as those required by the PRO Act would be actively harmful to efforts to quickly and efficiently rebuild America's infrastructure.

The changes that would be required by the PRO Act would unquestionably delay the construction of the infrastructure needed for effective broadband deployment and harm the ability of Americans to maintain access to clean water and wastewater systems, jeopardizing public health. Consequently, NUCA urges Members of Congress to oppose HR 842 when it is brought up for a full vote.

Regards,

Doug Carlson

Chief Executive Officer