



555 13th Street, NW
Suite 4E-009
Washington, DC 20004

July 13, 2016

The Honorable Frank LoBiondo
U.S. Congress
2427 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Vote NO on King Amendment 1330 on Davis-Bacon Prevailing Wage

Dear Representative LoBiondo:

On behalf of the Construction Employers of America and our five member associations, we urge you to oppose Rep. Steve King's (IA-04) amendment (H.Amdt. 1330) to H.R. 5538, the "Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017". Congressman King's amendment would prohibit federal funds to implement, administer, or enforce prevailing wage requirements, more commonly known as "Davis-Bacon".

For over 80 years, Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements have ensured that companies pay fair wages and labor receives fair compensation for their work based on regional wages. Prevailing wage safeguards have proven sound construction procurement policy, ensuring project success by respecting and adhering to prevailing workforce standards and wages. Davis-Bacon discourages artificially low bids that undercut high workforce standards. Artificially low bids frequently lead to claims, disputes, and project delays. Established industry and project owner practices in both the private and public sectors recognize that high workforce standards delivery superior project outcomes. Prevailing wage standards also promote using local labor forces for public works projects.

This is not a simple vote for or against union labor. Construction Employers of America, our five member associations, and the 22,000 construction companies affiliated with CEA and our member associations support Davis-Bacon and prevailing wage laws.

Construction Employers of American once again urge you to vote against the King Amendment and defend local prevailing wage laws. The Construction Employers of America, our member associations, and our 1.4 million employees nationwide appreciate your leadership. CEA members include the International Council of Employers of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, the Mechanical Contractors Association of America, the National Electrical Contractors Association, the Sheet Metal & Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association, and The Association of Union Constructors.

Sincerely,
Jack Jacobson