



## NORTH ATLANTIC STATES CARPENTERS POLITICAL TEAM

### INSTRUCTIONS

This PDF contains information on the Davis-Bacon Act and a sample letter. Use the example below to write your own letter, print it, and then take a photo of the stamped, addressed envelope next to the letter. This photo should then be uploaded to your online scholarship application form. You can find your representative and where to send your letter at [www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative](http://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative).

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**[Date]**

**[Title] [Full Name of Legislator]**

**[Legislator Address at State House]**

Dear **[Title] [Last Name]**,

As a constituent and as the child of a union Carpenter, I urge you to continue supporting the federal Davis-Bacon Act. The Davis-Bacon Act preserves local area wages and labor standards in contracts for federal construction work. Enacted in 1931, the law states that contractors for federal projects must pay their workers no less than the wage rates prevailing in the local area for each craft, as determined by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Prevailing wage laws are critical to maintaining fairness in publicly funded construction projects. These regulations ensure that whether a contractor is union or non-union, they must pay workers fair wages. Davis-Bacon also levels the playing field by preventing contractors from undercutting wages to secure lower bids. This allows contractors to compete based on their effectiveness in project management, knowledge, and skill, rather than through unfair labor practices such as wage theft and tax fraud.

Davis-Bacon has been an undeniable success—lifting millions of working people into the middle class, strengthening public-private partnerships, and guaranteeing that America's infrastructure is built by the best-trained, highest-skilled workers in the world. These laws also keep union members working, as forty percent of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters' work hours come from either federal or state prevailing wage projects.

Working families appreciate your leadership and I ask you to continue to support workers and the Davis-Bacon Act.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

**[Your Full Name]**

**[Your Full Address]**



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### DAVIS-BACON LEGISLATION

The Davis-Bacon Act is a federal law enacted in 1931 that requires contractors and subcontractors on federally funded construction projects over \$2,000 to pay workers the local prevailing wage. Similar to state prevailing wage laws, it ensures that all workers—union and non-union—receive fair wages and benefits, preventing contractors from underbidding by lowering wages. This levels the playing field for contractors and promotes fair competition based on skills, efficiency, and project management rather than cutting labor costs.

### WHAT DOES THIS LEGISLATION DO?

- **Encourages Skilled Workforce:** Allows contractors to compete based on expertise, project management, and efficiency rather than cutting labor costs.
- **Promotes Local Employment:** Ensures local workers are paid fairly for publicly funded construction projects, keeping jobs in the community.
- **Levels the Playing Field:** Requires all contractors, union or non-union, to pay the same wage rates, preventing unfair underbidding.
- **Supports Livable Wages:** Ensures taxpayer dollars go toward paying workers fairly, rather than driving wages down.