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Building and Construction Trades Department

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Dear Representative:

On behalf of the approximately 2 million skilled craft professionals who comprise America's Building Trades Unions, I write in strong opposition to the falsely titled "Protecting Jobs from Government Interference Act" (H.R. 2587). This legislation will not protect or create any jobs, but this misguided measure will facilitate a race to the bottom for American workers' rights, wages, benefits and working conditions.

H.R. 2587 would strip the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) of its adjudicative authority to enforce basic labor protections, and will allow employers to openly discriminate against workers who exercise their right to join together and bargain for better working conditions through a union. Companies would be allowed to openly outsource jobs, intimidate and fire workers without repercussions in retaliation for American workers who exercise their rights under current U.S. law.

Among the many and devastating consequences of this far reaching legislation is the elimination of any legal restriction on subcontracting in the construction industry. Current law, section 8(e) of the National Labor Relations Act, recognizes the long standing and widespread practice of subcontracting in construction and encourages labor and management to decide how subcontracting should occur. This bill would strip the NLRB's enforcement authority to ensure that construction workers are able to fully receive the benefits of collective bargaining.

This legislation is an outrage to the fundamental rights of working men and women, and I urge you to oppose H.R. 2587.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark H. Ayers
President