



Western Washington

Associated Builders and Contractors advances the principles of free enterprise and merit in the construction industry and provides members and their employees with opportunities to succeed by promoting safe, quality, sustainable construction. Nationally, ABC represents 21,000 firms in 70 chapters.

Construction Industry Issues

Liability Reform

ABC believes that to improve the liability insurance market for contractors, significant reforms to tort laws are needed. ABC supports legislation that would limit construction liability to defects or damage caused by the contractor, rather than the owner's negligence or poor maintenance.

Workers Safety

ABC supports efforts to respond in a cost-effective, evidence-based way to worker safety issues and opposes legislation or rule making that imposes onerous requirements on employers with little or no benefit to employees.

Construction Licensing

ABC supports efforts by the Department of Labor and Industries to test and license crafts that have inherent risk so long as such efforts do not unfairly impact open shop contractors.

Employee Benefits/ Relations

ABC believes that (1) injured and unemployed workers should receive assistance when appropriate, and (2) there should be affordable health insurance options available to employers and their employees.

Outsourcing/ Public Contracting

ABC believes that government should award contracts to the lowest responsible bidder with the most responsive bid, without any discriminatory requirements. ABC supports limiting or reducing the number of public employees working on public works projects and requiring government entities to contract more of their services from the private sector. ABC opposes increasing bid limits on public works.

Restrictive Project Labor Agreements & Apprenticeship Requirements

ABC opposes union-only project labor agreements and mandatory apprenticeship requirements. ABC supports apprenticeship as a training model, but opposes mandates requiring the use of state-approved apprentices. ABC also supports reforms to eliminate unnecessary, costly and time-consuming application and approval processes that discourage or discriminate against qualified applicant programs.

Prevailing Wage

ABC supports reforms to the state's prevailing wage law so that prevailing wages more accurately reflect wages paid in the private sector. Public construction should be provided at comparable cost to private construction.

Contact us!

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