

May 9, 2023

The Honorable Jared Polis
Governor of Colorado
State Capitol Building
200 E. Colfax Ave., Rm. 136
Denver, CO 80203
GovernorPolis@state.co.us

Dear Governor Polis,

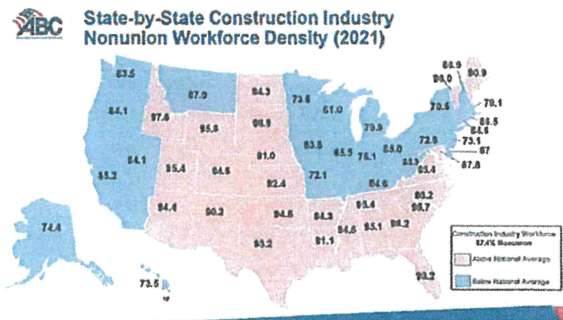
We implore you to stand up for your constituents and respectfully request that you veto Senate Bill 23-292.

On May 6, 2023, Colorado Legislators passed Senate Bill 23-292, which strongly recommends the utilization of Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) on energy sector construction projects that have State funding and/or incentives offered through Public Utility providers.

The stated purpose of Senate Bill 23-292 is centered on the claim that a safe and cost-effective delivery via reliable and adequate supply of properly trained workforce is a vital interest of the public. This stated purpose is exactly what the existing construction industry of Colorado delivers each day in our great State!

The disguised, and singular goal of Senate Bill 23-292 is to leverage taxpayer money to assist unionization of Colorado's trade industries, which will in turn, harm Colorado in the following ways:

1. Senate Bill 23-292 will disrupt the State's existing workforce, given the majority of specialty contractors and skilled trades are merit-based, not union-based. With surrounding states having a similar demographic, where can we expect the workforce to come from and how can it be financially positive for taxpayers?



2. If enacted, Senate Bill 23-292 places limits on workforce development and the workforce pool. The bill puts the Colorado economy at risk by recommending restrictions on the skilled trades workforce and its development. We should be coming together as an industry to focus on continuing to elevate and lift all skilled trades rather than adding laws that recommend restricting its majority. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects growth of electrician jobs by 9.1% from 2020 to 2030, which is 18% greater than the 7.7% growth rate expected for all other occupations. Despite this need, if enacted, Senate Bill 23-292 will stunt that growth.
3. Having PLAs in place hurts the Colorado economy due to less money circulating through Colorado businesses and to Colorado employees. Senate Bill 23-292 will promote more traveling by out-of-state union workforces and union contractors at the expense of loyal Coloradoans. Union workers will come for the "set aside" work but won't stay to open business offices and invest their profits back into our community.
4. Some supporting Senate Bill 23-292 will claim the PLA language in the bill is "optional." However, it is very unlikely that utilities will use a mix of merit and union workforces due to Senate Bill 23-

292 generating more responsibility for certified payroll to administer both PLAs and Prevailing Wages. This option is inherently closed to Colorado merit-based contractors.

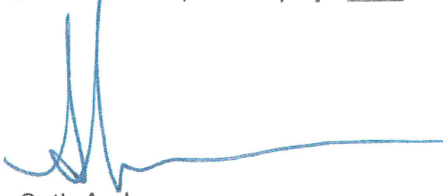
5. Colorado already has numerous barriers to entry that prevent development within our State. Don't allow PLAs to become another limiting factor when people and businesses look to invest in Colorado and call it home.

In summary, please show the boldness of your courage by vetoing Senate Bill 23-292 and averting its harm to both Colorado's workforce and Colorado's economy!

Respectfully,



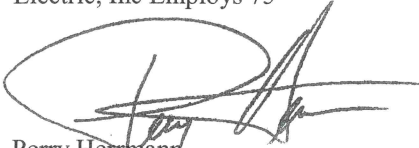
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