

## **House Passes Legislation to Suspend Trade Relations with Russia**

Yesterday, the House of Representatives passed bipartisan legislation to suspend normal trade relations with Russia and Belarus. The legislation includes additional provisions to expand the United States' trade tools to stop Russia's war on Ukraine and to hold Belarus accountable for its involvement. Specifically, the bill:

- Provides the President with time-limited authority to increase tariffs on products of Russia and Belarus, until January 1, 2024;
- Requires the U.S. Trade Representative to use the voice and influence of the United States to seek suspension of Russia's participation in the World Trade Organization (WTO) and to halt Belarus' WTO accession and accession-related work; and
- Provides the President with the authority to restore normal trade relations with Russia and Belarus if these countries have ceased their acts of aggression against Ukraine and other certain conditions are met. Congress has the authority to overrule such a decision through a congressional disapproval process.

It is unclear when the U.S. Senate will take up the bill.

## **DOL to Offer Webinars on Prevailing Wage Compliance**

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) will offer online compliance seminars for contracting agencies, contractors, unions, workers and other stakeholders to provide information on the requirements governing payment of prevailing wages on federally funded construction and service contracts. Offered by the department's Wage and Hour Division, the seminars are part of the division's ongoing effort to increase awareness and improve compliance with federal prevailing wage requirements.

The seminars will include video training on many Davis-Bacon and Related Acts and McNamara-O'Hara Service Contract Act topics that participants can view on demand. In addition to viewing the recorded videos on specific DBA and SCA topics, online Question & Answer sessions on DBA and SCA compliance will be offered live in March, June and September from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. EDT.

- Davis-Bacon Act compliance Q&A's are scheduled for March 29, June 14 and Sept. 13.
- Service Contract Act compliance Q&A's are scheduled for March 30, June 15 and Sept. 14.

While seminar attendance is free, [registration is required](#).