

NDA Urges Senate to Pass Workforce Training Bill

NDA recently sent a [letter](#) to Senate leaders urging them to pass S. 1213, the Training America's Workforce Act, which would address labor shortages in the private sector by making apprenticeship programs more responsive to the workforce needs of demolition contractors and other small businesses. This legislation, [recently introduced](#) by Sen. John Thune (R-SD), would amend the National Apprenticeship Act to allow individuals to acquire tangible workforce skills in specific industries through on-the-job learning and classroom instruction, as well as an industry-recognized credential during participation in or upon completion of an industry-recognized apprenticeship program (IRAP). NDA will be working with Sen. Thune and other industry allies in Congress to advocate for passage of S. 1213 and other legislation that addresses workforce challenges faced by the demolition industry.

NDA Joins Advocacy Coalition on Sensible Overtime Policies

This week, NDA joined the Partnership to Protect Workplace Opportunity (PPWO) coalition which was formed to advocate for sensible and financially sound overtime policies in the federal government. The PPWO consists of a diverse and influential group of business organizations including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Federation of Independent Business, the National Association of Home Builders, and others.

The Biden Administration is planning to issue new overtime regulations in the coming weeks which could significantly impact workplace freedom and flexibility for employers and employees. NDA will be working with its PPWO coalition partners to lobby the Biden Administration on practical and workable overtime policies that represent the interests of demolition contractors and their employees.

House Passes Immigration Enforcement Legislation

On Thursday, the House of Representatives [passed legislation](#) on a party-line vote of 219-213 that would increase border security and immigration enforcement in the United States. The bill would require all employers to use E-Verify, a federal web-based system that allows public- and private-sector employers to confirm that employees are eligible to work in the United States. Currently, 22 states mandate some form of the E-Verify program. The bill would phase in the E-Verify requirement over several years, with deadlines depending on the size of an employer's workforce. In addition, the bill would modify existing civil and criminal penalties for hiring people without work authorization.

The legislation now moves to the Senate where it faces significant opposition from Democrats who control the chamber. House Republicans are hoping passage of the legislation sparks bipartisan negotiations on a broader immigration package. NDA will be closely monitoring negotiations on immigration legislation and its potential impact on the demolition industry.