

## **December 13, 2024**

The Honorable Mike Johnson

Speaker

U.S. House of Representatives 568 Cannon House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer

Majority Leader U.S. Senate

322 Hart Senate Office Building

Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries

Minority Leader

U.S. House of Representatives

2433 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell

Minority Leader U.S. Senate

317 Russell Senate Office Building

Washington, DC 20510

## **RE:** Support the Stronger Workforce for America Act

Dear Speaker Johnson, Minority Leader Jeffries, Majority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader McConnell:

The National Demolition Association (NDA) represents nearly 500 U.S. and Canadian companies that offer standard demolition services as well as a full range of demolition-related services and products. NDA educates members on the latest advances in equipment and services, provides educational programs and tools to stay abreast of regulatory and safety matters and keeps regulators informed about issues in our industry. NDA also increases public awareness of the economic and societal benefits of demolition.

NDA writes today to urge Congress to take action on workforce development legislation before the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress adjourns at the end of the year. NDA calls on both chambers to support the bipartisan Stronger Workforce for America Act agreement which would reauthorize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) for the first time in a decade and strengthen the workforce development system. This proposed legislation would play a critical role in helping reduce labor shortages, boosting skills development, and providing more resources for workforce training and education.

Since WIOA was last reauthorized in 2014, employers in the demolition industry have faced unprecedented challenges in hiring and retaining skilled workers. Labor shortages and a shrinking skilled worker pipeline threaten the future of the construction industry and U.S. economy as a whole. To address these pressing workforce challenges, the Stronger Workforce for America Act would make several much-needed reforms to WIOA to bolster the amount of hands-on vocational training provided under the law, build stronger partnerships between employers and the workforce system, and give more individuals a chance at a successful and fruitful career.

Both parties on the House Education and Workforce Committee and Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee have spent several months carefully negotiating and drafting this landmark bipartisan agreement. Congress should seize the opportunity to help Americans employers and workers by passing the Stronger Workforce for America Act by the end of this year.

Thank you for your attention to this issue and if you have any questions, please contact NDA's Director of Government Affairs Alex McIntyre at amcintyre@demolitionassociation.com.

Sincerely,

Jeff Lambert

Chief Executive Officer

National Demolition Association (NDA)