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International
Union of
North America

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September 2, 2025

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The Honorable Bruce Westerman
United States House of Representatives
202 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jared Golden
United States House of Representatives
1107 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Westerman and Golden:

On behalf of the more than 530,000 members of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), I want to thank you for your leadership in introducing the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act. This bipartisan legislation will help to modernize the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to streamline the permitting process. LIUNA is proud to support this important bill, which will ease time-consuming regulatory hurdles that kill job opportunities for LIUNA members.

LIUNA members build the infrastructure that powers the American economy and help keep our communities healthy and safe. Time-consuming, burdensome, and often duplicative regulatory reviews and permitting processes continue to kill jobs that our members are trained to perform. These jobs keep roofs over our members' heads and food on their families' tables. We strongly believe that the NEPA process no longer represents good environmental stewardship and has become a tool of environmental extremists and opponents of important infrastructure projects. Modernizing the 50-year-old NEPA with the SPEED Act can cut the red tape and allow the United States to accelerate the permitting review process for energy and other infrastructure projects while maintaining a high standard for environmental stewardship.

Unfortunately, NEPA has become a cumbersome and lengthy process that has increased costs and permitting timelines. It has also become a tool of radical special interest groups to block critical infrastructure across the country. NEPA ranks as the United States' most litigated environmental statute. These lawsuits add an average of four years to a project's timeline. These delays alone can kill a project even when the litigation against it fails.

Your legislation will shorten permitting timelines and help reduce frivolous litigation. By simplifying the analysis required in NEPA documents, the burden on

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Federal agencies will be eased. It also clarifies the definition of “Major Federal Action,” which triggers the NEPA process. Additionally, the bill establishes judicial review limitations for NEPA claims, including a 150-day deadline for filing claims, a new standard of review, and the elimination of procedural moves that stop projects from moving forward.

Once again, I commend you on your sponsorship of this important legislation, which will help America rebuild its crumbling infrastructure while continuing sound environmental stewardship. LIUNA looks forward to working with you to get this legislation enacted into law

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Booker", with a stylized, flowing script.

BRENT BOOKER
General President

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