



*"You are the single most competent people with the greatest expertise to do what you do. If all of a sudden, every member of the IBEW stops and says I'm not doing it anymore, the nation comes to a screeching halt. ... **No one else can do their jobs if you are not on your job.**"*

--Joe Biden, to the IBEW Political & Legislative Conference, 11/13/19

## JOE BIDEN: A FRIEND OF THE MIDDLE CLASS

Before he left the Senate and became vice president, Biden had a **100% voting record on working family issues** and a lifetime voting rating - over 35 years - of 85 percent.<sup>1</sup>

Joe Biden appointed **President Stephenson** to his **Climate Engagement Advisory Council**, demonstrating his commitment to ensuring the **IBEW** has a seat at this table.

## REBUILDING AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE

Joe Biden will harness the skills of American workers to:<sup>2</sup>

- **Rebuild** electricity grids, water systems, bridges, roads, and rail lines
- **Promote domestic energy security** by promoting nuclear, battery storage, and carbon capture
- **Create 1 million new jobs** in domestic auto infrastructure, including parts, materials and electric vehicle charging stations

## JOE BIDEN SUPPORTS:<sup>3</sup>

- The **PRO Act**, which will protect workers' right to organize and bargain collectively
- Extending **the right to organize** to independent contractors
- **Project labor agreements**
- **Prevailing wages on all infrastructure** and transportation projects
- Creating a **cabinet-level working group** that will focus on promoting unions
- **Banning "right-to-work"**
- Reinstating weakened occupational and safety standards
- Federally registered apprenticeships
- **Passage of the Butch Lewis Act** to help troubled multiemployer pension plans

Joe Biden supports the petrochemical cracker plant outside Pittsburgh and fracking. **"No, I would not shut down [the hydraulic fracturing] industry,"** he said.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ibew.org/Journals/scans/IBEW%20Journal/2008-Fall%20IBEW%20Journal.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://joebiden.com/build-back-better/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://joebiden.com/EmpowerWorkers/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com/2020/04/20/joe-biden-talks-fracking-coronavirus-and-president-donald-trump/>



## OSHA: NOT PROTECTING SAFETY AND HEALTH

- The Trump Department of Labor **refuses to issue an emergency standard to protect workers** during the pandemic
  - OSHA has only released voluntary "guidance"
- The number of OSHA inspections has fallen drastically under Trump<sup>7</sup>

**"Under the Trump administration, the agency is suffering from malignant neglect."<sup>8</sup>**

--- Former head of OSHA, David Michaels

## TRUMP: WILL VETO PRO ACT

Trump statement after House of Representatives passed the PRO Act, which will protect workers' right to organize and bargain collectively:

*"If H.R. 2474 were presented to the President in its current form, his advisors would recommend that he veto it."<sup>9</sup> (2/5/20)*

## TRUMP: ENDORSED BY ABC

President Trump is touting his reelection endorsement by the Associated Builders and Contractors, who said:

*"Your promise to veto the PRO Act ... assures us that you will protect the merit shop industry..."<sup>10</sup>*

## WATERED DOWN, LOW-QUALITY APPRENTICESHIPS?

Trump called for the DOL to establish a new apprenticeship system

- Known as the **Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Program (IRAP)**, it would allow employers to create their own watered-down apprenticeship standards<sup>11</sup>
- Would make it easier for low-road contractors to replace union members with **lesser-skilled, low-wage workers**
- On 3/10/20, the Trump Administration backed off its plan to undermine the century-old construction apprenticeship system<sup>12</sup> in the face of opposition

## DONALD TRUMP'S SECOND TERM: GOODBYE, DAVIS-BACON

- White House details plans to **effectively repeal Davis-Bacon**, without congressional approval<sup>13</sup>
- Davis-Bacon enforcement is already lagging
  - Davis-Bacon enforcement investigations have gone down by 20 percent<sup>14</sup>
  - If the Department of Labor will not enforce Davis-Bacon, low road contractors will drag down wages

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.nelp.org/news-releases/number-federal-workplace-safety-inspectors-falls-45-year-low/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.statnews.com/2019/10/10/silicosis-outbreak-malignant-neglect-of-osha/>

<sup>9</sup> [https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/SAP\\_HR\\_2474.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/SAP_HR_2474.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.donaldtrump.com/media/as-president-trump-rebuilds-our-economy-the-associated-builders-and-contractors-endorse-his-re-election>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/3245/>

<sup>12</sup> [http://www.ibew.org/media-center/Articles/20Daily/2003/200317\\_UnionsFight](http://www.ibew.org/media-center/Articles/20Daily/2003/200317_UnionsFight)

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.politico.com/news/2019/10/04/federal-employees-white-house-memo-028954>

<sup>14</sup> <https://news.bloomberglaw.com/daily-labor-report/trump-wage-chief-overhauls-agency-internal-documents-reveal>