International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers



9000 Machinists Place Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-2687

Area Code 301 967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

June 30, 2020

Dear Representative,

On behalf of the largest defense and aerospace union in the United States, the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM), I urge you to vote "Yes" on the vitally important amendment (LOG 63 Rev. 1) sponsored by Representative Donald Norcross (D-NJ) to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2021, which will strengthen Buy American requirements for major defense acquisition programs. The amendment would bolster our economic and national security and create good, middle-class jobs in the United States by immediately increasing Buy American requirements for major defense acquisition programs to 75 percent domestic content and then increase the percentage by five percent per year to reach a 100 percent domestic content requirement in 2026.

Buy American policies serve the public good by targeting our tax dollars for the purchase of American made products and services, thereby employing U.S. workers and putting our federal tax receipts to work here at home. For far too long we have neglected to properly consider the impact of defense procurement policy on our domestic industrial base and, consequently, on the U.S. economy. We as a nation need to act strategically when it comes to defense procurement. Not only do we need to supply our men and women in uniform with the best possible products and equipment, but we must also support the U.S. defense industrial base, including the small and midsized firms across America that constitute the supply chain for critical defense programs. We must understand that the foundation of our industrial base lies with the skills and abilities of the American worker. Congressman Norcross's amendment would help ensure that our tax dollars are used to support the U.S. workforce and the firms who employ them.

I urge you to vote "Yes" on Representative Norcross's vital amendment (LOG 63 Rev. 1) to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 to strengthen Buy American requirements for major defense acquisition programs.

If you have any questions, please contact Legislative Director Hasan Solomon at (301) 967-4575 or hsolomon@iamaw.org.

Sincerely,

Robert Martinez, Jr.
International President