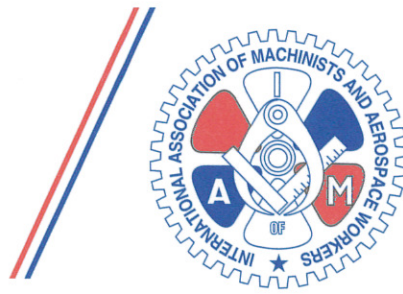


**International
Association of
Machinists and
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-2687

Area Code 301
967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

August 31, 2021

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 strongly urge you to vote "Yes" on the vitally important amendment offered by Representative Donald Norcross (D-NJ) to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2021 to increase Buy American domestic content requirements for major defense acquisition programs to 75 percent. I also strongly urge you to oppose any efforts to weaken the language offered by Congressman Norcross. This sorely needed amendment would bolster U.S. economic and national security and create good, middle-class jobs by gradually increasing Buy American domestic content requirements for major defense acquisition programs to 75 percent by 2029.

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.

For all of these reasons, I strongly urge you to vote "Yes" on Representative Norcross's vitally important amendment to the FY22 NDAA to strengthen Buy American domestic content requirements for major defense acquisition programs. I also urge you to oppose any attempts to weaken the language offered by Congressman Norcross.

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

Sincerely,

Robert Martinez, Jr.
International President