



November 18, 2020

Dear Representative:

On behalf of The Association of Union Constructors (TAUC), I am writing to express our strong support for H.R. 8294, The National Apprenticeship Act of 2020.

TAUC is the largest multi-craft union contractor association in the nation, representing over 1,800 union construction firms engaged in industrial construction and maintenance activities. Our members employ union craft personnel on construction and maintenance projects to deliver value to their clients. These union men and women are among the most well-trained and highly skilled construction industry professionals in the world. They ensure our members provide the safest, highest-quality and most cost-effective construction services to their customers. These professional construction workers attain their high level of proficiency by participating in rigorous joint labor-management registered apprenticeship programs.

It is important to note that these joint labor-management apprenticeship programs are privately funded by signatory construction contractors and do not rely on taxpayer dollars. TAUC members and other union construction contractors jointly operate with their labor partners over 1,100 apprenticeship training centers nationwide and make private investments of approximately \$1.3 billion annually in workforce training and apprenticeship programs.

H.R. 8294 would expand and strengthen these privately funded registered apprenticeship programs. Specifically, by establishing statutory criteria to ensure the quality standards for apprenticeships, the bill will provide consistency in quality standards and worker protections across all registered apprenticeship programs. The legislation would also expand access to apprenticeships and training opportunities by providing investments to expand youth apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeship programs, which will prepare participants to enter and succeed in registered apprenticeship programs.

We encourage you to support this important legislation and ensure that our members have access to the highly skilled craft workforce they rely on to deliver quality construction and maintenance activities for their customers.

Very truly yours,

Stephen R. Lindauer
Chief Executive Officer