



September 23, 2025

Governor Gavin Newsom
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 71 (Wiener) – Request for Veto

Dear Governor Newsom:

Associated Builders and Contractors of California (ABC CA) is a statewide organization representing working Californians in carpentry, construction, construction craft laborer, electrical, low voltage, painting, plumbing, pipefitting, and sheet metal who are building commercial, industrial and affordable housing projects, and we must respectfully request your veto on SB 71 (Wiener), a bill that will streamline climate-friendly sustainable transportation projects.

ABC CA supports when the state of California streamlines burdensome processes, and we are very supportive of the state's efforts to create more job opportunities for the men and women in the construction industry. ABC of CA employs men, women, people of color, former foster youth, formerly incarcerated, and others from marginalized communities. However, when state legislation requires the use of project labor agreements, these types of state policies disproportionately harm the 80% of the construction workforce that is not covered under a bargaining agreement.

There are reputable studies and data that have proven that the use of a project labor agreement drives up costs of projects, delays the completion time of a project, reduces the competitiveness of a bid, and potentially leads to the discrimination of non-union employers. The most recent of these studies was conducted by RAND: https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RRA1362-2.html. The findings proved that the mandatory use of project labor agreement had a negative outcome for an affordable housing project in Los Angeles.

For these reasons, we must respectfully request your veto on SB 71.

Thank you for your consideration and continued leadership on behalf of California's workers and employers. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Gutierrez", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Greg Gutierrez
Chair of the Board