

June 2, 2025

Senator Scott Wiener 1021 O Street, Suite 8260 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 71 (Wiener) – OPPOSE (As Amended 05/23/2025)

Dear Senator Wiener:

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 write to express our oppose position 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 community. 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, ABC CA opposes SB 71 (Wiener).

Sincerely,

Grea Gutierrez

Chair of the Board