

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Nita Lowey
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Committee
1016 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Richard Shelby
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader McConnell, Chairwoman Lowey, and Chairman Shelby:

We write to you in strong support of America's workers and urge you to keep their needs in mind as you continue to negotiate final fiscal year 2021 omnibus appropriations legislation, particularly as the ongoing coronavirus pandemic worsens. Federal programs that implement and enforce worker safety measures, protect workers' rights to organize, and provide access to employer and employee training – especially registered apprenticeships – are desperately needed. In this moment of need for workers across the nation, we encourage you to support the following provisions, included in House-passed H.R. 7617, in any final appropriations package for the coming fiscal year:

- Prohibit federal agencies from imposing new union contracts not agreed to through good-faith collective bargaining negotiations.
- Block regulation implementation that prevents unionized home health workers from using payroll deductions to pay union dues.
- Prohibit Department of Labor and National Labor Relation Board rules that indemnify corporations for wage and working condition violations of franchisees and contractors.
- Prohibit implementation of any rule that would privatize job search functions and other essential services offered through the Employment Service System.
- Not less than \$12.7 billion in discretionary appropriations for the Department of Labor (an increase of \$254 million above FY20 and \$1.6 billion above the President's request), including not less than:

- \$10.2 billion for the Employment and Training Administration (an increase of \$187 million above FY20 and \$1.5 billion above the President’s request), including not less than:
 - \$2.9 billion for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act State Grants
 - \$2.6 billion for operation of the Unemployment Insurance Program
 - \$1.76 billion for Job Corps
 - \$410 million for the Senior Community Service Employment for Older Americans Program
 - \$185 million for Registered Apprenticeships
 - \$101 million for YouthBuild
 - \$50 million to expand Strengthening Community College Training Grants
 - \$78 million for Foreign Labor Certification
- \$1.7 billion for Worker Protection Agencies, including not less than:
 - \$594 million for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration
 - \$246 million for the Wage and Hour Division.
- \$15 million for the Women’s Bureau (an increase of \$1 million above FY20 and \$12 million above the President’s request).
- \$58 million for the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (an increase of \$3 million above FY20 and the President’s request).

We thank you for your consideration of these requests, and for your continued support of America’s workers and organized labor.

Sincerely,

Rep. Mark Pocan
Co-Chair
Labor Caucus

Rep. Donald Norcross
Co-Chair
Labor Caucus