

SUMMARY of Green Construction Careers Proposal for the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009

The American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (ACESA) will help to transform our economy, and create new jobs. This legislation presents a unique opportunity to target quality green jobs and training opportunities to workers and communities who traditionally have been left out of opportunities to share in our nation's success. Without strong requirements, low-road contractors could predominate on ACESA projects, failing to provide job training and squandering a chance to build middle-class construction careers in a new green economy that works for all of us. States and cities have pioneered the use of targeted hiring and apprenticeship requirements on publicly-funded construction projects around the country, demonstrating some of the best practices for ensuring job quality and equitable access to employment and training opportunities.

This proposal is supported by a broad coalition of advocates, community-based organizations, and labor working for green jobs, workers' rights, job training, and economic justice.

The proposal would:

- **Target jobs to local, low-income workers.** Contractors would have to ensure that a percentage of project work hours are worked by local, low-income workers; the minimum percentage is 15%, with a goal of 30%.
- **Ensure quality job training opportunities by maximizing use of apprentices.** Where joint apprenticeship programs are located near a project, contractors would have to maximize the use of registered apprentices. This would both generate quality training opportunities and promote use of high-road contractors.
- **Support quality pre-apprenticeship training programs and recruitment.** One percent of each project's funds would be dedicated to creating a pipeline of workers ready to step into apprenticeship programs and construction careers. Funds can be used by pre-apprenticeship training providers with a strong record of training targeted workers, by community-based organizations to recruit targeted workers for training programs, and by community-owned contractors to participate in apprenticeship programs.
- **Community Workforce Agreements.** Agencies and contractors should utilize agreements that establish uniform labor standards across all contractors and labor organizations working together on projects which are the most effective means to achieve project stability and to meet targeted hiring and training goals in the community where the work is to be performed.
- **Adapt for residential retrofitting environment.** In the residential retrofitting sector, recipients of Federal assistance would have to ensure that at least 30% of project work hours are worked by graduates of eligible training programs, where at least half of the training participants are targeted workers. Such programs should enter into partnerships with community-based organizations to recruit targeted workers. Community-owned contractors would be prioritized for residential retrofit contracts.

For more information about the proposal, please contact: Susan Rees, srees@wowonline, 202-464-1596; Jason Walsh, jason@greenforall.org, 608-443-9264, Mike Monroe, mmonroe@bctd.org, 202-431-2232, or Steve Savner, Center for Community Change, ssavner@communitychange.org, 202-339-9312.

Organizations endorsing this proposal are listed on the back.

The following organizations have endorsed this proposal.

Alameda Corridor Jobs Coalition
Alliance to Develop Power
ARISE
Blacks In Green (BIG)
Building And Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO
Business and Professional Women/USA
Campaign for Community Values
CASA de Maryland, Inc.
Center for Community Change
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
Center on Policy Initiatives (CPI)
Central Arizonans for a Sustainable Economy (CASE)
Central Illinois Organizing Project (CIOP)
Chicago Coalition for the Homeless
Chicago Workers Collaborative
Chicagoland Green Collar Jobs Initiative
Coalition on Human Needs
Community and Labor United (MASS-CLU)
Community Voices Heard
Connecticut Center for a New Economy
East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy (EBASE)
FACE
FRESC – Good Jobs, Strong Communities
Gamaliel Foundation
Gamaliel of Georgia
- ABLE
Gamaliel of California
- Genesis
- JOB
- CAUSE
Gamaliel of Illinois
- SSAC
- Pilsen Neighbors
- Gamaliel of Metro Chicago
- United Congregations of Metro East
Gamaliel of Michigan
- MOSES
- EZEKIEL
- JONAH
- ISAAC
Gamaliel of Missouri
- Metropolitan Congregations United
- MORE2
Gamaliel of Virginia
- Empower Hampton Roads
Garden State Alliance for a New Economy (GANE)
Georgia Stand-Up (GSU)
Good Jobs and Livable Neighborhoods
Green for All
Half in Ten
Harborquest, Inc.
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
(ICIRR)
InterValley Project
ISALAH
Laborers' International Union of North America (LiUNA!)
Local Economic & Employment Development [LEED]
Council - Chicago, IL
Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE)
Leadership Conference on Civil Rights
Maine People's Alliance
Mahoning Valley Organizing Collaborative
National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity
National Employment Law Project (NELP)
National Training and Information Center/National
People's Action
National Women's Law Center
New Economy, Working Solutions (NEWS)
OneAmerica
Orange County Communities Organized for Responsible
Development (OCCORD)
Partnership for Working Families
PICO National Network
Pittsburgh UNITED
PolicyLink
PRICSM
Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada (PLAN)
Puget Sound Sage
Syracuse Alliance for a New Economy (SANE)
Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
Transportation Equity Network
United Job Creation Council
Ventura – CAUSE
Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW)
WISDOM
- CUSH
- ESTHER
- JOB
- JOSHUA
- MICAH
- RIC
- SOPHIA
Women's Foundation of California
Workers' Alliance for a Just Economy (WAJE)
Working Partnerships, USA (WPUSA)