



2026.04

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE WASHINGTON BUILDING TRADES JOBS PACKAGE

WHEREAS, Washington’s skilled union construction workforce is facing a significant shortage of available work due to stalled projects, delayed investments, and regulatory barriers that prevent needed infrastructure from moving forward; and,

WHEREAS, this lack of job opportunities threatens the stability of apprenticeship programs, the retention of skilled journey workers, and the economic well-being of communities across the state; and,

WHEREAS, major opportunities exist in energy production, grid modernization, transportation, water systems, public facilities, and other infrastructure sectors — but these opportunities cannot be realized without timely project delivery and strong labor standards; and,

WHEREAS, outdated or inconsistent state statutes, siting and permitting processes, and fragmented regulatory frameworks often delay or prevent projects that would otherwise create thousands of family-wage union jobs; and,

WHEREAS, Washington’s registered apprenticeship, prevailing wage, and responsible-bidder laws are proven tools for ensuring high-quality training, safe worksites, and equitable access to construction careers; and,

WHEREAS, the Washington State Building and Construction Trades Council (WSBCTC) is advancing a comprehensive building trades jobs package organized around five pillars: Public Works & Capital Investment, Skilled Workforce & Apprenticeship Pathways, Energy Production & Infrastructure Development, Labor Standards, Enforcement & Accountability, and Siting, Permitting & Regulatory Alignment; and,

WHEREAS, the Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO (WSLC), has a responsibility to advance policies that expand job opportunities, strengthen labor standards, and ensure that public and private investments support Washington workers; now therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that the WSLC shall support, and lobby for the building trades jobs package; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the WSLC shall include the building trades jobs package in its legislative priorities and coordinate with the WSBCTC on the development of advocacy materials, messaging and legislative strategy; and be it finally,

RESOLVED, that the WSLC in collaboration with the WSBCTC will monitor any legislation, budget proposals, or policy discussions that relate to or impact the five pillars of the building trades jobs package, to ensure coordinated labor movement engagement.