



SUPPORT Memorandum

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President

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Secretary-Treasurer

Mike Neidl
Legislative Director

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ON SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AGENDA 2/5/24 Support Prevailing Rate on Brownfield Remediation Projects

S5868A Harckham/A7491 Bronson

The New York State AFL-CIO, representing 2.5 million union members and their families, as well as our retirees and their families, supports the above-referenced legislation.

This bill amends the environmental conservation law to require that as a condition of brownfield remediation tax credits for developers, construction work be performed in accordance with Section 220 of the Labor Law, including prevailing rate and bona fide apprenticeship programs.

Brownfield remediation projects are particularly hazardous and necessitate the use of an adequately trained and skilled workforce. The labor standards that this bill would establish will improve workplace safety on brownfield clean-up projects by promoting the use of workers trained through certified apprenticeship programs. The bill will also require fair and adequate compensation for those workers, which is particularly important when taxpayer dollars fund the development.

Given the level of taxpayer support and the clear public interest in environmental and economic development policy that brownfield tax credits have, it is time that they be treated like all other public works projects and be subject to prevailing rate. This will create greater project safety, quality, and efficiency.

Therefore, this Federation urges this bill to be passed.

For further information contact the Legislative Department at 518-436-8516.