



3-17-10
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North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters

Wisconsin • Minnesota • North Dakota • South Dakota

March 17, 2010

Dear House Member,

The North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters urges you to support HF 3641 chief authored by Rep. Welti. The bill provides for common sense changes to the C-BED statutes that reduce ambiguities and may encourage the growth of green technology and energy sector jobs in our state.

At the core of the vision of community based wind is the idea that Minnesota communities, residents and workers should benefit from the vast wind resources in our state. As this industry emerges, Carpenters Union members and their families, including the millwrights we represent, continue to benefit from the green energy construction jobs it creates.

This bill would recognize that using Minnesota contractors and construction workers on a project and the use of Minnesota workers in the continued maintenance and operations provide an important economic benefit to our communities. We believe that this would encourage the use of Minnesota workers on future C-BED projects.

In addition, the Carpenters support the inclusion in statute of value-added payments for goods manufactured in Minnesota as a qualified revenue and community benefit. We need to take steps now to show that Minnesota is a good place to do business for companies that manufacture components for wind energy generation.

Finally, by making these common sense changes to the way we define C-BED, our members and their families would benefit as energy consumers through lower C-BED rates.

As a union, we are dedicated to protecting and elevating the economic and social condition of all workers. We partner with contractors to provide our industry the best-trained, most-productive, safest workforce available. Thank you for your consideration of HF 3641.

Sincerely,

Kyle Makarios
Political Director

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