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Legislative Alert: Amendments 8, 16 and 17 to the National Defense Authorization Act (H.R. 4310)

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Abstract
[Excerpt] On behalf of the AFL-CIO, I am writing to urge you to oppose amendments 8, 16 and 17 to the National Defense Authorization Act (H.R. 4310).

Keywords
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May 17, 2012

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the AFL-CIO, I am writing to urge you to oppose amendments 8, 16 and 17 to the National Defense Authorization Act (H.R. 4310).

Oppose Amendment 8 (Bartlett/Flake). The Bartlett/Flake amendment would mandate a prohibition on Project Labor Agreements (PLA’s) for Department of Defense (DoD) construction projects. PLA’s are a proven tool for private sector as well public sector construction projects that promote efficiency, safety and workforce development. The Department of Defense should continue to have the option to utilize PLA’s, but the Bartlett/Flake amendment would impose an unnecessary mandate that would prevent the DoD from even considering the PLA option.

Oppose Amendment 16 (Hayworth). The Hayworth amendment would prevent DoD from in-sourcing functions such as preparing budgets, interpreting regulations, and overseeing contractors, even when these functions could be handled more cost effectively by DoD’s civilian workforce.

Oppose Amendment 17 (Coffman). The Coffman amendment would prevent DoD from insourcing work even when the Department determines that a contract costs too much or results in seriously deficient work. The amendment would effectively repeal the insourcing provisions of the FY 2008 National Defense Authorization Act, which were strengthened in last year’s defense authorization. The result would be to allow outsourcing of DoD work, but not to allow insourcing even it is in the taxpayers’ interest.

We thank you for your consideration of our views and urge you to oppose these amendments.

Sincerely,

William Samuel, Director
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT