



April 26, 2022  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**OVER 100 UNION CARPENTERS RALLY ON STEPS OF CALIFORNIA STATE CAPITOL IN SUPPORT OF  
AB2011**

SACRAMENTO - Union carpenters in hardhats and vests from across California gathered on the steps of the California State Capitol today to voice their support for [AB2011](#) ahead of a crucial committee vote on Wednesday.

The essential workers cheered and waved signs as Assemblymember Buffy Wicks (D-Oakland), [Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters](#) (SWRCC) Executive Secretary-Treasurer Pete Rodriguez and [Nor Cal Carpenters Union](#) (NCCU) Executive Secretary-Treasurer Jay Bradshaw addressed the lively crowd. Ray Pearl, Executive Director of the California Housing Consortium and Abram Diaz, Policy Director of the Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California also spoke, adding their support for AB 2011.

“This bill combines some of the best ideas advanced in the Legislature over the last several years for promoting affordable housing development with a requirement creating ‘high road’ jobs,” said Assemblymember Buffy Wicks. “To effectively take on our state’s housing issues, I firmly believe we need to do both.”

“Make no mistake about it,” said Pete Rodriguez, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of SWRCC, “AB2011 is a pro-worker bill that will help all workers building our housing projects earn good middle-class jobs with prevailing wages, healthcare, and apprenticeship opportunities.”

Jay Bradshaw, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of NCCU said, “This bill is a solid step forward in solving the housing crisis while lifting thousands of construction workers out of poverty. Its guarantees for prevailing wages, healthcare, and apprenticeship participation will ensure the workers get the dignity they deserve.”

AB2011 was introduced to the Assembly Committee on Housing and Committee Development by Committee Chair Buffy Wicks. This bill, endorsed by affordable housing groups and labor, will unlock a wave of new affordable housing in underutilized commercial areas—and ensure this development includes strong labor standards that grow the blue-collar, middle-class construction workforce needed to maintain stable, economically healthy communities.

To build on these new sites, the bill requires developers to meet a range of responsible wage and training standards including:

- Prevailing wage is required on all projects.
- For projects of 50 or more units, health benefits for workers are required. All contractors must either participate in a state-approved apprenticeship program or request the dispatch of apprentices from a program. If no apprentice workers are available, the project can still move forward.
- The bill also includes new enforcement mechanisms to ensure these payroll and benefits requirements are being met.

Union carpenters support AB2011 because the bill represents the best of the both worlds for the union – creating much needed affordable housing for Californians while ensuring a fair wage is paid to the workers who are building it.

Members of the Assembly Committee on Housing and Community Development will vote on whether to advance the bill out of committee on April 27.

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The Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters (SWRCC) represents nearly 60,000 Union Carpenters in six states. The Union is dedicated to raising the safety and standards for all skilled carpenters and advocating for the rights of workers, their families, and their communities. The SWRCC is proud to be affiliated with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

With a membership of over 37,000 skilled craftspeople, the Nor Cal Carpenters Union (NCCU) with its 22 affiliated Local Unions is one of the largest organized voices in the California construction industry. Its mission is to build power for our membership to ensure each member can build a career with dignity that provides the best wages and benefits possible.