

# COVER STORY

ROOFING STORIES AND EVENTS THAT ARE MAKING HEADLINES



## America's Building Trades Unions Weigh In On Democratic Party Platform

*America's Building Trades Unions President Sean McGarvey applauds President Barack Obama and the Democratic Party platform.*

WASHINGTON, DC—*The following is a statement issued by Building Trades President Sean McGarvey on the 2012 Democratic Party Platform:*

**I**n order to move America forward, put Americans back to work, and establish an economy built to last, our members in the building trades need more specifics and less rhetoric. In particular, we would like to see a firm and lasting commitment to re-building our nation's infrastructure, which would include a long-term, and more robust, surface transportation bill; updated Clean Water and Water Resources Development bills; a public school modernization bill; and maintaining the ability of the federal government to utilize project labor agreements for these types of complex construction projects.

Our members understand the great challenges that President Obama inherited in 2009, because our members were among the first casualties of the Great Recession and they have been among the last to enjoy the benefits of 29 consecutive months of private-sector job growth.

From his Executive Order on Project Labor Agreements and leadership on the American Recovery Act, to his shepherding of emergency financial support for the auto industry, and to his continued efforts in support of American Jobs Act and other vital administrative actions, President Obama has worked to expand job opportunities for our members.

The 2012 Democratic Party Platform offers a genuine commitment to the validity and necessity of America's labor unions. Specifically, it sanctions collective bargaining rights, opposes efforts to enact "paycheck deception" laws, calls for an increase in the minimum wage, and takes umbrage at the increasing and troubling practice of "employee misclassification."

Further, the Democratic Party platform offers an endorsement for future investments in transportation, infrastructure and continued domestic energy production—all of which are important avenues for job creation for the U.S. construction industry.

In this important campaign, the men and women of our unions rightfully expect all political candidates to articulate specific ideas and proposals that they plan to advance if elected to office.

When compared side-by-side with the Republican Party platform, which seeks to establish the first-ever National Right-to-Work law, abolish the Davis-Bacon Act and put an end to the federal government's ability to utilize Project Labor Agreements (PLAs), it's abundantly clear which Party, and which presidential candidate, supports and represents the interests of the men and women who comprise America's Building Trades Unions. ■

# TWO VISIONS ONE CHOICE

## For America's Building Trades Unions

TAKE THE TIME TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHERE EACH CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT STANDS ON THE ISSUES THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.



### **PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA**

#### **PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENTS.**

On Feb. 6, 2009, President Obama signed an executive order encouraging the use of project labor agreements (PLAs) on federally funded construction projects in excess of \$25 million. This executive order overturned a ban on federal PLAs instituted by President George W. Bush.

#### **DAVIS-BACON PREVAILING WAGE REQUIREMENTS.**

On Feb. 23, 2009, President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (the "stimulus" bill) that included tens of billions of dollars for infrastructure construction and repair. This law included federal Davis-Bacon Act requirements for all construction investments included in the law.

#### **STANDING UP FOR AMERICAN JOBS.**

President Obama took a principled stand to reinvest in the American auto industry, saving thousands of jobs of building trades members who do the maintenance at American auto plants and millions more who depend on the auto industry.

(Sources: Chicago Tribune, 6/4/11; The Wall Street Journal, 11/17/10)



### **MITT ROMNEY: CEO OF BAIN CAPITAL**

*"If I become president of the United States, I will curb the practice we have in this country of giving union bosses an unfair advantage in contracting. One of the first things I'll do...actually on Day One...is I will end the government's favoritism towards unions in contracting and federal projects and end project labor agreements, and I will fight to repeal Davis-Bacon."*

—Mitt Romney, speaking to the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) convention upon receiving the group's endorsement on Feb. 23, 2012

**MITT ROMNEY IS CLEARLY THE WRONG CHOICE FOR AMERICA'S BUILDING TRADES UNIONS**

MAKE SURE  
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NOV.





## Six Races That Could Change the Course for America's Working Families

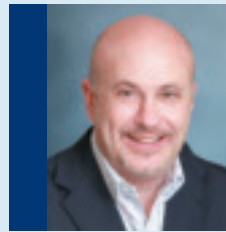
**T**his election year, what's at stake are basic values. Will we bow to the top 1%? Or will we honor the simple idea that made America great and will make America great again—respect for hard work and the contributions of every person?

The following six races have been targeted by America's Building Trades Unions as critical to the future of the 99%. The legislators listed below are the candidates in these races who are committed to supporting issues important to America's working families.



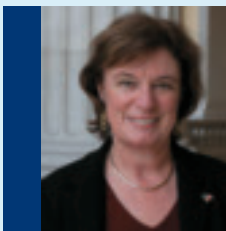
**Sherrod Brown**  
(OH-Senate)

Sherrod Brown has earned a reputation as an independent voice for ordinary Ohioans and middle-class families. Since his election to the U.S. Senate in 2006, Brown has been working on behalf of Ohioans to stop the erosion of jobs in Ohio due to the wrong-headed trade and economic policies of the past. Instead of voting for corporate-backed free trade deals that have devastated Ohio's manufacturing sector and sent good-paying American jobs overseas, Brown has been a tireless advocate for policies that help workers and their families.



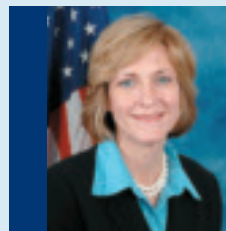
**Mark Pocan**  
(WI-2)

Mark Pocan has spent the last 13 years in the Wisconsin State Assembly, and now he hopes to represent Wisconsin families in Congress. He has been deeply involved in many initiatives focused on collective bargaining rights and public financing of clean elections. During the recent attack against workers in Wisconsin by Gov. Scott Walker, Pocan took a visible, leading role, fighting hard for what he believes in, as a legislator and as a union member of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades.



**Carol Shea-Porter**  
(NH-1)

Carol Shea-Porter has spent two terms in the U. S. House of Representatives, where she has always worked for what she calls the bottom 99% of Americans. She worked hard to pass legislation to help active duty soldiers and veterans, families, working men and women, senior citizens and students. She believes that education is the key to prosperity, that renewable energy is key to our economic future and our national security, and that shipping jobs overseas hurts not just American workers, but also our country.



**Betty Sutton**  
(OH-16)

Betty Sutton currently represents northeastern Ohio in the People's House, where each day she fights to create jobs, help working families and make sure our veterans are treated with the respect and dignity they deserve. She is working to make sure we are creating jobs here in the U.S. and fighting against the abusive trade tactics being used by China. Getting Americans back to work in well-paying, sustainable jobs has been and will continue to be Sutton's number-one priority.



**Christie Vilsack**  
(IA-4)

Christie Vilsack is a native Iowan committed to a life of public service. She is a career educator who has always been willing to step up to the plate to build strong communities whether as a teacher, activist or Iowa's leading volunteer as First Lady. Vilsack believes in increasing apprenticeship programs to improve economic and job opportunities. We can build and keep a younger workforce in Iowa through improving early workforce skills, creating a federal partnership, providing tax credits for businesses and increasing opportunity and accessibility.



**Gary McDowell**  
(MI-1)

Gary McDowell has built a reputation as a bi-partisan leader who has worked across the aisle to cut taxes for small businesses and the middle class. He will continue to work hard in Congress to bring good paying jobs back to Michigan; protect and strengthen Social Security and Medicare; make sure our children and grandchildren can live in a debt-free country by responsibly reducing the deficit; ensure we remain competitive by supporting strong public education; and protect vital investments for our economy that create jobs here.

## Republicans Also Make the Endorsement List

We are pleased with the support we have had over the years from some members of the Republican Party who see the value in maintaining local standards through prevailing wage statutes and seek greater efficiencies and certainty on construction projects through the application of Project Labor Agreements (PLAs).

The following Republican candidates deserve your consideration because they consistently support legislation that promotes PLAs. They have been endorsed by the local Building Trades Councils in their areas.

**Mario Diaz-Balart** (FL-21)

**Jo Ann Emerson** (MO-8)

**Peter King** (NY-3)

**Leonard Lance** (NJ-7)

**Frank LoBiondo** (NJ-2)

**David McKinley** (WV-1)

**Tim Murphy** (PA-18)

**Ileana Ros-Lehtinen** (FL-18)

**Chris Smith** (NJ-4)

**Michael Turner** (OH-3)

**Jon Runyan** (NJ-3)

**Michael Grimm** (NY-13)

**David Joyce** (OH-14)