NDA Urges Senate to Take Action on House Workforce Bill

This week, NDA called on U.S. Senate leaders to pass H.R. 6655, <u>A Stronger Workforce for America Act</u>, which reauthorizes and updates the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) for the first time since 2014. The bill passed the House of Representative by a strong bipartisan vote of 378-26 last month and now awaits a vote on the Senate floor.

This legislation makes significant improvements to the workforce development system to help address labor shortages, boost skills development, build stronger connections between employers and the workforce system, and provide resources for workforce training and education. NDA has stressed the importance of passing this legislation with key Senate offices and will continue to urge action on this bill in the Senate.

EPA Announces \$300 Million in Brownfields Cleanups

On Monday, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced over \$300 million in grant awards through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to help States, Tribal Nations, local governments and non-profit organizations assess and clean up polluted brownfield sites across the country. These investments through EPA's Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup (MAC) Grant Programs and Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grant Programs will help transform once-polluted, vacant and abandoned properties into community assets.

According to the EPA, 178 communities will receive 181 grant awards totaling \$231 million through EPA's MAC Grant Programs. EPA is also announcing \$68 million in supplemental funding for 31 existing, high-performing Brownfields RLF Grant Programs, as well as the selection of Grow America, an RLF Technical Assistance provider, for an estimated \$3 million in grant funding.

To see the list of the FY 2024 Multipurpose, Assessment and Cleanup applicants selected for funding visit EPA's FY 2024 Multipurpose, Assessment and Cleanup Applicants webpage. To see the list of RLF Supplemental funding recipients visit EPA's FY 2024 Multipurpose, Assessment and Cleanup Applicants webpage.