BUILDING AN EQUITABLE RECOVERY

Across the country, cities and states are working hard to rebuild communities and recover from the devastating impacts the pandemic has had on working families. A significant part of rebuilding our economy will be major infrastructure projects, from high-speed trains to a stronger electric grid, and gearing up for the renewable economy.

But something is blocking our road to a just recovery: the local hire ban, an arcane rule that prevents cities and states from creating local jobs with federal infrastructure dollars.

WHAT IS THE LOCAL HIRE BAN?

Currently, federal regulations prohibit cities and states from implementing local hire policies on any projects that are funded by the federal government. Local officials, labor unions, and community groups have argued for years that connecting local infrastructure projects with good jobs for local workers would have a major positive impact on regional economies.

Research from Jobs to Move America shows that the purported justification for the ban – that linking local hire to infrastructure projects would suppress competition and increase costs – is simply not true.

IMPACT

Overturning the ban on local hire would:

• Support public officials to act smartly with public money, creating good-paying jobs and strengthening the local tax base to ensure we’re reinvesting in our communities;

• have the potential to create thousands if not millions of jobs around the country;

• and allow the Biden administration to provide a common-sense solution that can empower communities to rebuild their economies.

To learn more about local hire: www.jobstomoveamerica.org/local-hire

WHO ARE WE?

JOBS TO MOVE AMERICA is a national strategic policy center that works to transform public spending and corporate behavior using a comprehensive approach rooted in racial and economic justice and community organizing.

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