Mike Kufchak

IBEW Local 11

Director of Veterans Affairs

297 N. Marengo Ave, Pasadena Ca. 91101

18 Apr 2025

To: Alaska State Representative Mr. David Nelson.

From: Sergeant Major (Retired) Mike Kufchak, Director of Veterans Affairs

(International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 11).

Subject: Support of House Joint Resolution 20.

Representative Nelson, I am pledging my support of House Joint Resolution Number 20 (HJR No. 20) regarding the initiative to incorporate language into the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for calendar year 2025. Whereas, Veterans have an increased opportunity for access into apprenticeships regarding Department of Defense (DOD) Projects as well as Contractors following State Labor Laws that would induce Apprentice usage.

An established relationship between Contractors and approved Transitioning Programs can fulfill the need for a skilled trained workforce for government projects. As you're aware, Our Veterans, inclusive to their families, sacrifice above and beyond with constant deployments, separation, and relocation. Their spirit to serve Nation before themselves, is not measurable by any standard.

Upon completion of a veteran's service, be it 4 years, or a career within our Armed Forces. They have proven advanced citizenship. They should at minimum be rewarded with the opportunity to re-join the workforce with a Career that provides the support a Family needs in terms of Financial and Health Care Support. Of which can be an Academic College or Skilled Trade (Apprenticeship). But ultimately, it's the work garnished by Contractors on those DOD Installations that veterans are acclimated and familiar with regarding language, and culture.

Bottom Line Up Front is that Contractors working in the Trades should be abiding by State Labor Law especially on DOD Projects and should be pulling their Labor from Apprenticeships that support Veterans with Careers.

Respectfully Submitted

oche

M. Kufchak

Sergeant Major (USMC-Ret)